

Rec'd 6 April.



The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—*Humboldt's Cosmos.*

Contents.

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE	State of Trade, Labour, and the	The New Czar and his Consti-	The Science of Health	234
Imperial Parliament	215	Poor	tuents	Five Volumes	237
Probable Dissolution of Parlia-		The Australian Insurrection	State of Popular Feeling		
ment	220	Expedition against the Cuban	The Brussels Pamphlet	THE ARTS—	
The Emperor Nicholas	220	Government	The Cavalry in the Crimea and	Assault of Sebastopol	237
The War	221	Our Civilisation	Lord Lucan	Sir Henry Bishop's Concerts,	
Continental Notes	222	Altering a Parish Register	The New Reign in Russia	Hanover-square Rooms	237
State of the Kaffr Frontier	223	Miscellaneous	Tampering with Faith		
Belgian Politics	223	Postscript			
The Sebastopol Committee	223		OPEN COUNCIL—		
The Re-elections	224	PUBLIC AFFAIRS—	The Game Laws	COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—	
The Duke of Cambridge and the		The Granville Committee de Lu-		City Intelligence, Markets, Ad-	
Soldiers' Wives and Families	224	natio on Russian Emperors	LITERATURE—	vertisements, &c.	238-240
Peace Meeting at Manchester	225	Warnings	Summary		

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SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1855.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

ALEXANDER THE SECOND mounts the throne of the Czars, and proclaims that he intends to persevere in the policy of his father. No sooner is the death of NICHOLAS known, than the means by which he reached it come in question. In Paris poison is believed to have been the cause; but Dr. A. B. GRANVILLE has shown that at least one English physician could calculate the probable mortality of the man, and we believe that any Insurance Office would have refused a policy on the life of the heir to the infirmities of the ROMANOFF family. NICHOLAS came to his death "naturally"—if the close of so artificial a life as his can be called natural. No sooner was his death known than a speculation arose whether he would be succeeded by the eldest born or the child born after his accession to the throne—"the eldest born of the Czar," as CONSTANTINE, the second son, has sometimes been called. This question has already been settled by the undisturbed accession of the eldest, ALEXANDER. The next question was, whether the Emperor ALEXANDER II. would pursue the pacific policy presumptively ascribed to his ease-loving disposition, or proceed with the policy laid down by his father. Almost every consideration tended to the latter course. The whole organisation of the public service in Russia was framed to serve the policy of NICHOLAS; it has acquired a certain momentum of itself, and a new Emperor would have to turn from its purpose the organized machinery which NICHOLAS framed for carrying out his plans. Now the weaker the hand that at present holds the sceptre, the more feeble would it be to turn the settled course of affairs. So that on speculative ground the calculation fails. But it appears to be settled also as a matter of fact. On mounting the throne, ALEXANDER has issued a proclamation to his subjects, declaring that he intends to carry out the wishes and policy "of PETER, of CATHERINE, of ALEXANDER, and of his father." If anything were wanting to point out the meaning of this phrase, it would be supplied in the allusion to "honour and glory," and in the announcement which appears otherwise uncalculated for, that Finland and Poland are indissolubly united to the Empire. There has been a talk of giving Finland back to Sweden, and of re-establishing the Polish kingdom; and this phrase

appears to be a defiance specifically challenging the enemies of Russia on those points, as well as a general declaration that there is to be no interruption to the policy of NICHOLAS. The reports from Vienna are of the most contradictory character. Every kind of conjecture is based upon the rumour and gossip of that amusement-loving capital. The simple fact, that Prince GORTSCHAKOFF has had his powers as plenipotentiary of Russia renewed, has been taken to prove the disposition of Russia to yield; while formal compliments from the young Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH to the memory of NICHOLAS, have been considered evidence that Austria truckles to the ghost of the late Czar. NAPOLEON III. is supposed to be led by the young Austrian Emperor. Those who are best informed, however, do not put any faith in these hopes of the Peace party; and our own opinion is, that the conference in Vienna can only end abruptly, in proving the impracticability of an arrangement, is certainly shared by an increasing number. We shall see; but we certainly anticipate that the news of next week will be infinitely more warlike than that which we have to present our readers with on this present Saturday. Prussia remains outwardly unmoved; in other words, Prussia continues faithful to Russia, notwithstanding the demise of FREDERICK WILLIAM's brother-in-law. The last negotiations of Count WEDELL in Paris have failed, but of course they have recommenced. Prussia will "negotiate" as long as any power will listen to her. Meanwhile further accounts from the Crimea give additional importance to the transactions at Eupatoria: the Russians were evidently in force, and they were repulsed by OMAR PACHA with great gallantry. A new French division is destined to strengthen the forces in the Crimea; the report that the Emperor is going is renewed with increased probability; and the recall of MENSCHIKOFF, for incapacity, by NICHOLAS, shows that Russia is prepared for a great increase of the attack in that Peninsula. Piedmont sustains her position with dignity and independence. The Senate has discussed the treaty with not less patriotism than the Chamber of Representatives; and in reply to the Russian declaration of war, Count CAVOUR has issued a manifesto calmly setting forth that Piedmont, owing no debts to the former patron of Austria, will stand by the public law of Europe. The Conventions Bill has passed by an immense majority, the threats of the POPE notwithstanding. And, in

short, the Government of Piedmont, sustained by the Senate and the Representatives, is proceeding in its foreign and domestic policy with nothing but an increase of influence at home and abroad. Faults may be found in the details of its position; exception may be taken to some of the arguments which individual Ministers put forth; but there is no denying that the attitude now assumed by Piedmont has given her an importance which she never possessed before, and has added another to the many acts of gallantry which have distinguished the House of Savoy. From Australia we have some further reports of the gold-license insurrection at the diggings. Peace, it would appear, had not been restored, and the mutineers' movement wore a more ugly aspect. Ringleaders had been seized, and the punishment of leading men who represent such great numbers is likely to engender a very bad spirit in a class deeply imbued with feelings the reverse of respectful to constituted authority. At the Cape of Good Hope the Kaffirs and Fingoes, in alliance, were thought to be about to break the peace which General CATHCART forced upon them; the settlers complained that the Savages had already violated the neutrality of the "reserved ground." The colonists are very ready to suspect the Blacks, and are in many instances anxious to pick a quarrel. On the other hand, chiefs like SANDILLA and ANTA commonly begin their encroachments by very insidious approaches. Government was on the alert; and while we may consider these early reports as exaggerated, we may receive them as corroborative proofs that the hollow peace, based upon "treaties" with men who do not understand, them cannot last. Martial law has been proclaimed throughout the Island of Cuba, in anticipation of a hostile visit from the United States. General PIERCE's Government has taken steps to stop, in every port of the Union, the departure of any armed vessel intended for Cuba; but we have some reason to doubt whether the expedition is not likely to approach the island from a quarter where General PIERCE's authority would not avail. Spain puts off the evil day; but her own internal disorders continue to be too great to justify the expectation that she can keep distinct dependencies. She dares not even emancipate herself from priestly rule. While Piedmont has just passed the Conventions Bill, Spain has just decreed that the Roman Catholic religion is the faith of the State, none other permitted to show itself. How can a people

that cannot establish its own freedom, resist Cuban insurrection or the advance of Columbia?

Apart from foreign politics there is no event at home that needs detain us very long. Parliament has been going through the details of business without any very striking debates. The new Ministry has ventured upon no coup d'état, and has left the lead chiefly to the subordinates of the departments, who have been carrying on the Estimates—Mr. PEAR, Mr. MONSELL, and men of that class. The Army Estimates and the Ordnance Estimates have had to run through the fire of questions and sarcasms drawn from the experience of the campaign. Boots too large, great coats too flimsy, transports inefficient, commissaries out of the way when they were wanted, clothing for soldiers unenlisted, a want of clothing for soldiers on the field,—these have been traits of the administration of the departments that now come to Parliament asking for tens of millions of money each. The money was not withheld,—nor the sarcasms; and Ministers were content to take the cash, with assurances that they would behave better for the future.

In the meanwhile the inquiry into the state of the army before Sebastopol has begun, and witnesses have been examined who speak from personal knowledge on the spot—such as Mr. GEORGE DUNDAS; General Sir DE LACY EVANS; General BENTINCK; Dr. VAUX, a surgeon; Captain WRIOTHESLEY; and Mr. STEPHEN OWEN, the only surviving officer of the Resolute. The evidence thus far has given us nothing that is new; but it confirms many of the strongest statements made on the spot as to the incapacity of the commissariat, the total inadequacy of the transport machinery, and the excessive amount of labour thrown upon the men. The most experienced witnesses do not seem to consider the bad supply of provisions to have been so fatal as the continued over-exertion. The military officers were not astonished at the deaths of horses; nor, indeed, should they be so, for there have been Russian campaigns in which the Russians suffered a far greater mortality amongst their beasts than has been observed in the Crimea. But the over-exertion is something fearful, and we are thrown back by this result of the actual position at Sebastopol to the council of war at which the Crimean expedition was determined. It is evident that the Generals commanding did not know what they had to encounter—had not the knowledge which would have directed their movements—and had not the means which they would have demanded if they had known what they were going to do. It is not in fighting that the men have been killed, but in the impracticable endeavour to dig and defend a vast extent of difficult ground.

On Monday, Mr. MALINS moved for the correspondence between the First Lord of the Admiralty and Sir CHARLES NAPIER, doing what he could to compel submission to his motion, by reading extracts from the correspondence; as the chimney-sweeper who wanted a penny bun for a halfpenny enforced his proposal of the bargain by clapping the dainty between his hands while he bargained. Sir CHARLES NAPIER complained, through his lawyer Mr. MALINS, that whereas Sir JAMES GRAHAM had sent him the most flattering private notes, the First Lord of the Admiralty had called upon him to smash the British fleet against Sveaborg, and had dismissed him for declining to do so. In brief, that is the sum of Mr. MALINS's statements. Sir JAMES GRAHAM's reply is, that as a private friend he had written unguarded notes to Sir CHARLES; that after surveying Sveaborg Sir CHARLES placed the practicability of attacking that fortress in a new light, and the Board of Admiralty rather expected to hear of achievements on his part; the nonperformance of which apparently irritated Sir CHARLES, caused his language to become "turbulent and

insubordinate;" and that tone compelled the Admiralty to make him strike his flag, but without censure. The present First Lord, Sir CHARLES WOOD, refused the correspondence; and on the whole Sir CHARLES NAPIER gained nothing by the motion of his legal friend.

Nor did Sir HENRY HALFORD take anything by his motion for the second reading of his Wages Bill; the object of which was to prevent employers from stopping money out of wages for accounts set down to the credit of workmen. The bill is intended to grapple with an abuse that is a violation of the Truck Act; and it would serve the purposes of honesty and justice. It is undoubtedly open, however, to the objection that there is too much legislation on these things; and perhaps it would be better, instead of increasing the number of statutes for the protection of workmen, to pull down some of those that are used for their coercion and oppression.

We are promised, however, an abrupt close to all these debates, and discussions more exciting; for it is expected that as soon as Ministers have got their money they will dissolve Parliament. So we are to open the spring with a new Czar, an extended war, NAPOLEON in the Crimea, and the United Kingdom in all the excitements of a general election!

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

CIVIL SERVICE OF INDIA.

IN the House of Lords, on Monday, Lord MONTEAGLE moved for some correspondence touching the examination of candidates for the office of Assistant-Surgeon in the East India Company's Service. By the Charter Act of 1833, all distinction of caste, colour, or birth in appointment to office was abolished; but in practice, and by the regulations, that clause was never faithfully carried out. Under the Act of last session, however, regulations were passed which dealt satisfactorily with the whole subject of education in India, and to illustrate the working of it Lord Monteaule brought forward the instance of Dr. Chuckerbutty. At the early age of six or seven he had made great progress at the local school of his district in the Persian, Sanscrit, and Arabic languages, but, being anxious to learn the English language (accidentally heard in the mouth of a collector visiting the place), he set off to a distant European school, carrying with him a few articles of clothing in a handkerchief and some parched rice. Here he made still greater progress, and advanced from one school to another, till at length he came to England to complete his medical studies, at the hazard of losing the favour of his friends and his prospects of promotion. He entered University College, and there carried off three gold medals and certificates of honour, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and then applied for an appointment, and was refused. He was not daunted, however. After spending some time on the continent of Europe, he returned to India, where he was appointed a professor and lecturer in some of the many useful colleges which were to be found there. On learning that the Bill of last year had removed obstacles to his appointment as a surgeon, he came over to this country, competed in the public examination for an assistant-surgery, and attained the second place in the list of successful candidates. By the aid of the President of the Board of Control, he would not lose those appointments the possession of which he had risked by leaving India. Several exclusively British-born subjects in Calcutta had assisted him to come to this country and enter into competition with English subjects. Lord Monteaule expressed a hope that the generous measure of last session would not be defeated by a side-wind. After some remarks from Lord ASHBURTON—on the great capacity of Native Indians for classic studies—from the Earl of ALBEMARLE, Lord WYNFORD, and Earl GRANVILLE—who intimated that even the improved regulations are not unalterable against further improvement—the returns were agreed to.

ARMY EDUCATION.

On Monday, in the House of Commons, Mr. RICH, on the motion for going into committee of supply, moved an amendment, declaring it expedient that we should enhance the efficiency of our military academies, and take other measures to render the coming generation of officers more fit for regimental and staff appointments. The Navy and the East India Company's Service give good opportunities to young officers of acquiring a perfect knowledge of their duties; but in the regular army staff appointments are the result of favouritism, and he thought himself justified in saying that one-half of our military officers had not received an education to qualify them for the ordinary duties of life. The consequence of this is, that

they have to learn their profession after a war has broken out.

Mr. F. FRANKLAND, as the whole question of military education and promotion is now being considered by the Government, any present discussion on the subject would be premature. He also thought that too high a standard of education might lead to the exclusion of a large number of well-qualified persons.

Colonel DUNNE said we have no means in England of instructing staff officers in their duty; and that, according to the opinion of some French officers, our staff officers are the worst in the world, though they admit that our regimental system is perfect.

After some desultory remarks from various members, in the course of which Lord PALMERSTON observed that it was very important that officers should make progress in their profession, and that they should not be advanced unless they did so, Mr. RICH consented to withdraw the motion, as he thought the declarations made by Government were in many respects satisfactory.

THE ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

Mr. MONSELL said that the votes he was going to propose were unusually large; but for this there were very obvious reasons. He then specified the different amounts; among which were 267,000*l.* for barracks bedding, 54,375*l.* for boots and shoes, 142,500*l.* for warm clothing at the hospitals, 54,800*l.* for huts and stable-huts in the Crimea, which had been finished in eighteen days, and 332,500*l.* for waterproof clothing. With respect to this last item, he contended that great expedition had been shown by the Government in sending out the clothes, which were of excellent quality. Other items were 25,000*l.* for the erection of a foundry for the manufacture of Lancaster shells, and 15,000*l.* for the erection of a gun-factory at Enfield, of the origin of which Mr. Moncell gave several particulars. The item for great coats was very large: it amounted to 215,000*l.*, owing to the Irish militia and the foreign legion. Finally, he mentioned votes of 800,000*l.* for the supply and repair of small arms; 60,000*l.* for barracks at Dover; 61,000*l.* for the same objects Gosport; and 250,000*l.* for a permanent barracks at Aldershot, to contain 10,000 men. He concluded by moving the first vote, 1,402,961*l.*, for the original of the several Ordnance military corps.

Colonel DUNNE complained of the boots which had been sent out, and which were useless from being small; of the want of warm clothing in several of the regiments, which had in consequence suffered great mortality; and of the defective nature of the shells used against Sebastopol, many of which would not burst.—Mr. MURPHY said the conduct of the Government with respect to the manufacture of small arms was the old story over again. Mr. Moncell said that they had but a small supply of arms; but he had not told them the reason, which was, that the patterns had not been delivered till August, and the materials till November. Government had also deavoured to beat down the fair price for laymen, though they failed in that attempt; but the day had prevented half the guns being finished for use of bayonets. The establishment at Enfield would be all that could be desired if it were properly managed; but the manufacture for casting was one of the grossest jobs ever perpetrated.—Sir J. PAXTON, who approved of the guns in the new camp at Aldershot, said that the Government proposed to erect huts for 20,000 men in the course of six weeks, which was utterly impossible.—Lord SEYMOUR enlarged upon the justice of the Government requiring guns to be made at an insufficient price. It was out of the question to suppose that by establishing a manufactory at Enfield they could get a supply of arms more rapidly: the most rapid way was by dealing directly with the trade. He objected to the votes for new barracks, and he would propose to reduce the vote by 40,000*l.*, the sum asked for the new works at Enfield.—Mr. LAYARD criticised the defective guns sent out to Sebastopol; warned the Government against establishing an hospital at Smyrna, the climate of which was fatal to Europeans; and anticipated that, unless active measures were taken at Balaklava, the hot weather would bring a plague which would sweep away every man in the army.—Mr. NEWDEGATE supported the proposal of Lord Seymour. The gunmakers could produce of any amount required of them if they had only fair prices.

Mr. G. DUNDAS supported the vote; and Mr. MONSELL explained, with reference to the small gun-factory, that scientific gentlemen, who had been in America to investigate the gun-trade there, had shown that Government could make their own guns as perfect as the Minié rifles could be made, and that not more than half what was now being paid. The gunmakers of Birmingham need not be afraid of their trade being taken away from them, as Government was still disposed to receive all their own manufacture.—Lord PALMERSTON said it had been well known that there was a deficiency of the arms necessary for the supply of our army. He therefore proposed to establish a manufactory which would not enable the Government to furnish all the

material which was required, but which would enable it to contribute to the furnishing of very excellent weapons to our troops, and which in process of time would render them so independent of other supplies as would enable them to command whatever might be required elsewhere on reasonable terms. Government wanted all the arms that could be got, and had already been obliged to send to Liege and the United States for a supply.

Mr. MURPHY proposed the reduction of the vote by 15,000; but, on the committee dividing, the amendment was lost by a majority of 135, and the vote was agreed to.

The remaining votes were then passed after some discussion. On the last—a grant of 2,792,348*l.* for ordnance stores—Mr. MURPHY proposed to reduce the vote by 40,000*l.*, that being the charge for the small arm factory at Enfield; and, on the committee dividing, there appeared—For the amendment, 24; against, 110; majority, 86. The original vote was then carried.

THE CASE OF LORD LUCAN.

LORD LUCAN on Tuesday night brought forward his case in the House of Lords. He read the letter which Lord Raglan had sent to the Duke of Newcastle, and in which was contained a repetition of the charge of "misconception of orders;" also a letter from the Adjutant-General, stating that Lord Hardinge was not disposed to grant his (Lord Lucan's) request for a court-martial; and one from himself in reply. He moved that these letters should be printed. The motion was agreed to.

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

LORD BERNERS moved for returns of lead and other articles contraband of war, exported from different parts of England and Ireland since the declaration of war; and also for the returns of Russian produce imported into the United Kingdom in neutral vessels during the same period. The motion, he said, arose out of a current report that munitions of war had been sent to Russia under the sanction of the Customs House.—LORD GRANVILLE felt no difficulty in according to the first part of the noble lord's motion, but referred him to the Board of Trade for an answer to the second. He said that Lord John Russell had received assurances from the Prussian Government that, as far as Prussia was concerned, the law of neutrality would be carried out more effectually than heretofore. The motion was agreed to.

ROMAN CATHOLIC PROCESSIONS.

The Bishop of ELY moved for copies of cases put to the law officers of the Crown in 1852 with respect to the legality, under a certain statute, of Roman Catholic ecclesiastics walking in procession. The law officers held that the prohibition applied only to the regular clergy. The bishop believed all such processions to be illegal; but he desired to have the opinion of Lord Lyndhurst, who was chancellor at the time the act was framed.—LORD LYNDHURST stated that differences existed among the law officers as to the interpretation of the act; but that his own conclusions were the same as those of the bishop—that the prohibition applied to all "orders" of clergy, secular as well as regular—to "orders of deacons" as well as "orders of friars."—LORD ST. LEONARDS expressed a similar opinion, and the LORD CHANCELLOR a different opinion; but after little further discussion, the motion was agreed to, with some modification.

THE RECORDERS OF BRIGHTON.

In the House of Commons, on the same day, Mr. CRAWFORD moved for a select committee to take into consideration the case of the appointment of Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., to the office of Recorder of Brighton. Mr. James having been refused admittance to the bench of the Inner Temple on account of his conduct in respect of certain transactions connected with the election for the borough of Horsham in 1847. Mr. James, it was asserted, had pledged himself that, if certain charges of bribery were withdrawn, he would pay 1500*l.*, but had not done so.—THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in answer, said that Mr. James had made the compromise spoken of in his capacity of counsel for Mr. Jervis, the candidate in the election referred to; but that the latter gentleman, conceiving that Mr. James had exceeded his powers, refused to be bound by the engagement. An action was raised against Mr. James personally for the amount; but the proceedings were at once stopped. The benchers had not refused to admit Mr. James; and he hoped the House would not entertain the motion now submitted.—MR. ISAAC BUTT, MR. AINSWORTH, and LORD PALMERSTON spoke in favour of Mr. James's character. The motion was negatived. Mr. CRAWFORD being the only voter in its favour; and a motion that it be not entered on the proceedings of the House was carried without division.

MASTERS AND OPERATIVES.

MR. MACKINNON called attention to the inconvenience felt in this country from the want of equitable tribunals, by means of which differences between masters and operatives might be satisfactorily adjusted, and he moved for a select committee to obtain information as to the Conseils des Prud'hommes in

France.—SIR GEORGE GREY did not think it necessary for the House to appoint a committee for this purpose. He was willing to lay on the table all the information on the subject which the Government possessed, but he had great doubt whether any such tribunal was suited to the mercantile habits of this country.—MR. MACKINNON ultimately withdrew his motion.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS BILL.

The House of Commons on Wednesday went into committee on the Public Libraries and Museums Bill, the object of which is to repeal, for the purpose of extending, the act of 1850.—Clauses 1, 2, and 3 were agreed to; but on clause 4, Mr. BUCK moved that, instead of reducing the limit of the population who were to be subjected to the rate from 10,000 to 5000, as proposed by the bill, the limit should remain at 10,000 as at present.—MR. EWART replied that this was only a permissive bill.—MR. HENLEY, MR. MICHELL, MR. BROTHERTON, LORD STANLEY, MR. CARDWELL, SIR S. BIGGOLD, MR. BAINES, MR. LOWE, MR. ERSKINE PERRY, and MR. PERCY, spoke in favour of the clause; and MR. SPOONER, MR. HENLEY, and MR. WATSON, opposed it on the ground that sufficient distinction is not made between the inhabitants of large towns and those of agricultural districts, who would have to journey a long way to get at the libraries. Ultimately, Mr. BUCK withdrew his amendment, and the words "five thousand" were agreed to.—After some desultory discussion, Mr. EWART consented to omit Ireland, and subsequently Scotland, from the provisions of the bill; and several clauses were passed.—On clause 22, Mr. EWART moved to insert the word "newspapers" after "books;" to which Mr. SPOONER objected, on the ground that newspapers might have the effect of turning the libraries into "sedition-shops."—On the other hand, Sir J. SHELLEY was surprised at the boldness of the assertion that places which took in papers were sedition-shops. After some discussion, the insertion of the word "newspapers" was agreed to by a majority of 42.—Several other clauses were then agreed to; and the bill passed through committee, and was ordered to be taken into consideration on Monday next.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

In the House of Commons, on Thursday, Mr. HEYWOOD moved for a select committee to inquire into the best means of affording to the nation a full and equal participation in all the advantages not necessarily of an ecclesiastical or spiritual character in the public schools and universities of England and Ireland, and of improving the educational system in those seats of learning, with a view to enlarge their course of instruction, in conformity with the requirements of the public service. After some preliminary observations, he proceeded to indicate the course which he thought might be profitably taken by such a committee and the matters which should come under their consideration, suggesting the abolition of certain existing restrictions, and the adoption into the curriculum of study in our universities and public schools of modern languages, and various branches of science now neglected or excluded.—The motion was seconded by Mr. EWART.—LORD PALMERSTON said Mr. Heywood's proposal did not hold out any practical result. Measures had already been taken, to a certain extent, to introduce improvements into our seats of learning. A bill had already been passed with respect to Oxford, and one was contemplated for Cambridge. The appointment of a committee, therefore, would be waste of time. The best course was to wait and see what further improvements would be needed. There was no doubt that the system prevailing at public schools was capable of great improvements; but it was not true that they were backward in making improvements.—MR. PACE having spoken in opposition to the motion, and Mr. MIALL in its favour, Mr. HEYWOOD withdrew it.

STOPPAGES FROM WAGES.

SIR H. HALFORD moved for leave to bring in a bill to restrain stoppages from wages in the hosiery manufacture for the hire of machines. The bill, he said, was the same, verbally and literally, as the bill of last year, its simple object being to bring these stoppages within the provisions of the Truck Act.—SIR G. GREY said the object was impracticable, and that the proposal for regulating by Act of Parliament the rent paid for frames would be altogether illusory. Inquiry ought to precede the introduction of the bill.—The motion was supported by Mr. PACE, SIR J. WALMSLEY, MR. ROOKE, MR. W. J. FOX, and MR. NEWDEGATE; and opposed by MR. WILKINSON, MR. GARDNER, and MR. BALDWIN. Upon a division, it was negatived by 96 to 58.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER AND THE BALTIC FLEET.

MR. MALINS called attention to naval operations in the Baltic under Vice-Admiral Sir C. Napier, and moved for copies of any correspondence between the Board of Admiralty or any member of her Majesty's Government and Sir C. Napier since the 20th day of December last. After alluding to the glowing eulogies passed upon Sir Charles Napier at the celebrated Reform Club dinner, by several members of

the then Government, but more especially by Sir James Graham, he asked whether any one could have expected that on his return Sir Charles would meet with contempt and contumely, and be dismissed from his command. He showed, by extracts which he read from letters addressed by Sir James Graham to Sir Charles Napier, that down to the end of August the latter received the full confidence of the Government. In one of these letters, the Admiral was advised to pause long and consider well before attempting to meet the Russians in their strongholds, and the right hon. baronet expressed his fears that the Russians would be much too cautious to come out. Had the fleet been weaker they might have done so; but, as it was, they would probably wait and watch an opportunity in the hope that the Admiral would seriously cripple his force by knocking his head against their forts, when they might take him at a serious disadvantage and inflict a fatal blow. After the end of August, a correspondence ensued respecting certain plans for attacking Sweaborg; but on the 19th of September the French fleet retired from the Baltic, and a council of British admirals unanimously agreed that the season was too far advanced to justify such an operation. Sir Charles, on the 25th of September, reported to the Admiralty to that effect, namely, that the season was past, and that the weather could not be depended upon for two hours. This, Malins observed, was the point of difference between them, and to the discretion of the Admiral in this matter, he said, the country owed a deep debt of gratitude. On the 2nd of October the Government received intelligence that Sebastopol had fallen, and nothing would do but that some fortress in the Baltic should fall too. In a letter dated the 4th of October they directed that operations should be commenced at the end of October; but Sir Charles, on the 10th, wrote to decline undertaking an operation which he believed must fail, offering, if he had lost the confidence of the Government, to return. The correspondence ended on the 10th of November, but on the 31st of October the Admiralty expressed their disapprobation of the conduct of Sir Charles before the 25th of August, up to which date they had been "more than satisfied with all his proceedings." With respect to the letter of the 4th of October, directing that operations should be commenced, Mr. Malins observed that the Government had lost an army by their mismanagement, and that there was good reason to apprehend that, if their advice had been followed, they would have lost our navy too. In that case, there was nothing to prevent the Russian fleet from descending upon our shores. However, the Government, believing that Sebastopol had fallen, nothing would do but that Cronstadt must fall too. No doubt they felt that if Sebastopol and Cronstadt had both fallen, they could have come before Parliament with a story of success unparalleled, that the country would be perfectly satisfied that such a Ministry never existed before. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) What could be said of such men being entrusted with the affairs of the nation? What would the House say if it were found that the Secretary for War had written to Lord Raglan to desire that he would take Sebastopol on the 1st of April? ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) Mr. Malins then continued his narrative of facts subsequent to the arrival of Sir Charles in England on the 17th of December, stating that his reception by Sir James Graham had been all but insulting, and that on the 22nd he had been ordered, in very affronting terms, to strike his flag and come on shore. He insisted that this was a summary dismissal, and that it was unworthy treatment of a great public officer, who had brought back a large fleet in safety, and in a state of improved discipline. Sir Charles had therefore, he contended, been dismissed and censured; and he (Mr. Malins) thought the manner in which this distinguished public servant had been treated by the Government was unworthy of a great nation, and ought to be brought before the notice of Parliament.

The motion was seconded by Mr. T. HERBERT.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM said he had not come down to the House to read extracts from public despatches, or garbled citations from private and confidential letters. ("Hear, hear.") Still less would he enter into the details of private conversations. He denied that, either in the Baltic, or the Black Sea, or the Crimea, the honour of this country had been lost, as Mr. Malins had asserted, since we had never met the enemy in any one instance in which our arms had not been victorious. He proceeded:—

"The hon. and learned gentleman has commented upon an expression that was used by my noble friend, now at the head of the Government, on an occasion to which he delights in referring—namely, 'that the greatest proof of sagacity is exhibited in seeing several moves before.' Well, I must certainly plead guilty to a great want of this sagacity, because the 'moves' that have been taken by the hon. and learned gentleman on this occasion were not foreseen by me. I did not anticipate that he would have thought it consistent with his duty to read extracts from despatches which he says he has 'conned over'—that they have been 'submitted to him'—that he is 'in possession' of them—public despatches, be it ob-

served, of the highest possible importance, which the Government of this country has not yet been asked by the House of Commons to produce, and of which it still remains to be seen whether, when asked, the Government will think it consistent with its duty to the public to advise this House to consent to the production."

Sir James admitted that the Admiralty did in the main approve the conduct of Sir C. Napier, and he, for one, had never quarrelled with his discretion, with respect to which he (Sir James) sarcastically remarked—

"I stated upon the occasion of the Reform Club Dinner, that I had a great admiration for the proved and distinguished valour of Sir C. Napier; I added also that I thought him discreet. He has confirmed my opinion. Discretion—the better part of valour—has not been wanting, and I may say of him that he is both brave and discreet." (A laugh, and some murmurs of disapprobation.)

Referring to his promise at the same dinner that he would attend to celebrate Sir Charles's return, Sir James remarked—"I have received no invitation to celebrate the return and the brilliant successes of the gallant Admiral." With regard to the letter of the 4th of October, he said that Sir Charles closely reconnoitred Sweaborg for the first time on the 24th of September; and that he then wrote to the Admiralty a despatch which appeared to them materially to alter the aspect of the case. This despatch showed that it was possible to make an attack upon the place; and, in answer, Sir Charles was told to make no desperate assault, but to act upon his own discretion. As to the alleged censure and dismissal of Sir C. Napier, the Admiralty had no ground of censure with reference to his command of the fleet; but they had occasion more than once to warn him that the language and tone he assumed did not appear to them consistent with due subordination to superior authority. The Admirals who served in the Baltic had received orders on their return to strike their flags; and it was for the Executive to determine whether Sir Charles should rehoist his or not. Finally, Sir James observed that he thought it would be very dangerous to produce the papers required by Mr. Malins; and, leaving the affair in the hands of the Government, concluded by another blow at the author of the motion.

"Never in my life was I more astonished at the course pursued by any hon. member than I have been at that taken by the hon. and learned member for Wallingford. As for the equity and love of justice on which the hon. and learned member prides himself, the mode which he has of displaying it may be very good practice in the courts, but I am very much mistaken if it will succeed in the House of Commons." (Cheers.)

Admiral WALCOT defended Sir C. Napier. Sir CHARLES WOOD was satisfied that it was incompatible with the interests of the public service to produce documents which discussed the means, the possibility, and the mode of attacking fortresses. Captain SCOBELL and Mr. WHITESIDE defended Sir C. Napier; and Mr. MILNER GIBSON approved of the course taken by Mr. Malins. Admiral BERKELEY justified the conduct of the Admiralty by stating certain official details; and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL denied that Sir C. Napier had been dismissed—his command had simply terminated—while, so far from being censured, the Admiralty had expressed satisfaction at his conduct. Lord PALMERSTON, in stating that he should vote against the motion, repeated the denial that Sir Charles had been censured and dismissed, and asserted that nothing had occurred which in the slightest degree diminished the high character he held in the service of the country. Mr. MALINS replied, and consented, after what had been said concerning the danger of producing the papers asked for, to withdraw the motion.

PROBABLE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

WE have excellent authority for stating that the French Emperor has remonstrated against the committee for inquiring into the conduct of the war, and that he has said, that, in the event of its continuing to sit, the armies of the two nations cannot act together, although they may act for the same object.

In order, therefore, to satisfy Louis Napoleon, without affronting the English people, a dissolution of Parliament will, it is stated on the authority we have alluded to, take place almost immediately.—*Morning Herald*, Tuesday.

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

THE news of the death of the Russian Emperor, which we briefly announced last week, has been fully confirmed. He had been ill for about twelve days, owing, it is said, to having caught a cold by visiting the soldiers in their barracks, and holding long and frequent reviews in spite of the severity of the weather, and in opposition to the remonstrances of his children and chief officers, to whom, says a

French paper, he would reply, that he had something else to do besides taking care of his health. "He had, however, attended to it," says the same authority, "for more than a year past, and at times felt some uneasiness. He said that he had reached, and even exceeded, the number of years which God had allowed to others of his race, and that his end was not far distant. He had treated himself according to his own ideas; and had insisted on his physician putting him on a regimen which would prevent his getting corpulent, of which he had a singular dread." According to another account, his malady resulted from the fearful rage into which he fell on hearing that Sardinia had joined the alliance. At the commencement of his illness, he had felt some symptoms of gout; but pulmonary apoplexy, or paralysis of the lungs, was the disease of which he died. For a time, Dr. Mandt felt no alarm; but, early on the morning of Friday week, the physicians announced to the Emperor that but a few hours of existence remained to him. Upon being told that atrophy of the lungs was possible, he asked, "When shall I be paralysed?" The physicians could not give a precise answer. The Emperor then said to Dr. Carell, "When shall I choke?" Shortly afterwards he received the last sacraments, and, calling the members of his family to his bedside, took leave of them, and gave them his blessing separately—it is said with great calmness and self-possession, and in a firm voice. Paralysis then gained on his lungs, and he expired shortly after midnight. The news of his illness had reached Berlin at eight o'clock on Thursday evening, and the intelligence of his death was conveyed in a despatch addressed to the King of Prussia, which arrived at the Palace at noon on Friday.

The following sketch of the late Czar's life is derived from the daily papers—chiefly from the *Morning Post* :—

The Emperor Nicholas Paulowitch was born on the 6th of July, 1796, being the third son of the Emperor Paul by his second wife, Mary of Wurtemberg. His mother superintended his education, which she committed to General de Lamsdorf, who was assisted, amongst others, by the Countess de Lieven, the philologist Adelung, and the Councillor Stork. At an early period he applied himself with great ardour to military pursuits, in which he evinced considerable proficiency, especially in the art of fortification. However, in youth his instructors formed no high estimate of his abilities. He was taciturn, melancholy, and, when not engaged in his military studies, absorbed in trifles. The boy was not five years of age when the night Palace murder of March 23, 1801, made him an orphan. When the French invasion took place, Nicholas was old enough to be an observant, though distant spectator of that great struggle. On the restoration of peace in 1814, he left Russia to travel, and visited the principal battle-fields of Europe. In 1816 he arrived in England, where he received a cordial welcome. On returning home, he visited the different provinces of Russia, for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the actual condition of the population. In July, 1817, he married Charlotte Louisa, the eldest daughter of Frederick William, of Prussia, and sister of the present King. Four sons and three daughters are the issue of this marriage, the eldest son, Alexander Nicolaiewitch, having been born in the year 1818. At this time Nicholas had little expectation of obtaining the Imperial Crown; but in the year 1825, his eldest brother, the Emperor Alexander, died at Taganrog, in the Crimea, it is supposed, by poison. The next heir to the throne was the Grand Duke Constantine, who was then at Warsaw, and Nicholas hastened to take the oath of fidelity. But his brother had already renounced the Crown in a paper which he had secretly signed on the occasion of his marriage with the daughter of a private Polish gentleman. Nicholas, with expressions of regret, then ascended the throne; and now came a terrible struggle. A vast conspiracy, composed of two classes—the enthusiastic lovers of liberty and the old Russian party, the supporters of Constantine—was formed; but elements so discordant could not long act together. The troops were called upon to swear allegiance to the new Emperor; but they had previously sworn fidelity to Constantine, and not understanding the reason for the change of masters, they remained faithful to the oath which they had taken. When the ceremony commenced, the officers stepped out of their ranks, denounced Nicholas as a usurper, and declared that he held Constantine in confinement. The soldiers followed their officers, with cries of "Constantine and the Constitution." Milarodovitch, the Governor of St. Petersburg, and the veteran favourites of the army, were sent to parley with them. The archbishop appeared in his ecclesiastical robes; but all in vain. The populace began to sympathise with the troops, and the scene which followed has thus been described :—"The tide and tumult of death swept on to the imperial palace. The Emperor and Empress had proceeded alone to their chapel, and on their knees upon the altar steps had mutually sworn to die as sovereigns. Then placing himself at the head of the guard that yet remained loyal, the Czar rode out and confronted the rebels. Standing before them, he cried in a firm tone, 'Return to your ranks—obey—

down upon your knees!' The energy of his voice—his countenance, calm, though pale—and the veneration with which every Russ regards the person of his sovereign—prevailed. Most of the soldiers knelt before their master, and grounded their arms in token of submission. They say in St. Petersburg that while he harangued them one of the conspirators four times came forward to kill him, and four times shrunk back in fear. He retired from the spot; wherever resistance was made, the artillery played upon the gathering crowds, and the fire of musketry completed the work of destruction." The hopes of the Liberal and old Russian party having been thus quenched, Nicholas found himself the sole and absolute master of the gigantic Russian Empire. The Marquis de Custine, who had a conversation with the Emperor as to the memorable events of that day, records the following words used by Nicholas: "I did nothing extraordinary. I said to the soldiers, 'Return to your ranks!' and, at the moment of passing the regiment in review, I cried: 'On your knees!' They all obeyed. What gave me power was, that the instant before I had resigned myself to meet death. I am grateful for having succeeded, but I am not proud of it, for it was by no merit of my own." In the punishment inflicted on the rebels, Nicholas evinced the most unpeppable severity. Absolutism was henceforth his darling doctrine. To the Marquis de Custine he said, "I have no conception of a representative monarchy. It is the government of falsehood, fraud, and corruption, and, rather than adopt it, I would fall back to the borders of China." Again, "Despotism is the very essence of my government, and it suits the genius of the land." Shortly after his coronation, war was declared with Persia, which, after continuing more than a year, was concluded by a treaty, whereby the Shah ceded two provinces to Russia, and bound himself to pay 20 millions of silver roubles as the penalty of resistance. About a year afterwards Nicholas declared war with Turkey. Adrianople opened its gates, and Constantinople was itself in danger, although the Turks in the Balkan, and in the defence of Silistria and Varna, had covered themselves with glory. In 1829 the peace of Adrianople was concluded, by which Nicholas was permitted to retain authority in Wallachia and Moldavia, and the Porte agreed to indemnify the expense of the war by a payment of eleven millions and a half of Dutch ducats—a sum from which three millions were afterwards deducted. In 1830 the Polish revolution broke out; but England and France remained neutral, and Austria and Prussia aided the Czar in crushing the insurgent patriots. After a heroic resistance, Poland was reconquered—the Russians entered Warsaw, and in iron despotism was substituted for the semblance of constitutional government, which previously had been permitted to exist. When the cholera invaded St. Petersburg, the ignorant populace accused the physicians of having poisoned the sick in the hospitals, and put some of them to death. Nicholas rode to the mob, and shouted in a voice of thunder, "Down upon your knees before God, and ask pardon of him for your offences. I your Emperor—your master—order you." The populace obeyed. In 1839 war was declared with Cassia—a war which, with little honour to the Russian arms, has continued up to the present time. Throughout his reign the under-current of Russian intervention in the affairs of Turkey may be constantly traced until it reached, in 1853, that catastrophe which has for the last two years convulsed Europe. In 1840 the insidious propositions of Russia, being adopted by the British Government and by that of Austria, led to the brink of war with France, and engaged us in military operations in Syria; but with this exception the peace of the world remained undisturbed until 1848. Since that period, the chief features of the Czar's life must be too fresh in the reader's mind to need recapitulation.

ALLEGED INSANITY OF THE LATE CZAR.

A singular letter from Dr. GRANVILLE appears in the *Times* of Monday. We learn from this that, in the course of June, 1853, the doctor endeavoured to obtain a confidential communication with Lord Palmerston on the plea of having a very important fact to state with reference to the negotiations with Russia then proceeding. Failing this, he sent a letter to his lordship, in which he advanced the opinion that the Government was wrong in entering into treaty with the Emperor of Russia, since that individual was, in fact, a madman, and quite incapable of understanding abstract reason. In support of the assertion, Dr. Granville gave practical reasons :—

"The health of the Czar is shaken. It has become so gradually for the last five years. He has been irritable, passionate, fanciful, more than usually suspicious, capricious, hasty, precipitate, and obstinate without—all from ill-health, unskillfully treated; and of late deteriorating into a degree of cerebral excitement, which while it takes from him the power of steady reasoning, impels him to every extravagance, in the same manner as with his father in 1800; as with Alexander, in Poland, in 1820; as with Constantine, at Warsaw, in 1830; as with Michael, at St. Petersburg, in 1848-9. Like them, his nature feels the fatal transmission of hereditary insanity, the natural consequence of an overlooked and progressive congestion of the brain. Like them he is hurrying to his fate, sudden death, from con-

gestive disease. The same period of life, between 45 and 60 years of age, sees the career of this fated family cut short.

"Paul, at first violent, and fanatical, a perfect lunatic at 45 years of age, is despatched at 47, in 1801.

"Alexander dies at Taganrog in December, 1825, aged 48. For five years previously his temper and his mind had at times exhibited the parental malady by his capricious and wayward manner of treating the Polish provinces. He died of congestive fever of the brain, during which he knocked down his favourite physician, Sir James Wylie, who assured me of the fact at St. Petersburg in 1828, because he wished to apply leeches to his temples.

"Constantine, eccentric always, tyrannical, cruel, dies at Warsaw suddenly in July, 1831, aged 52 years, after having caused rebellion in the country by his harsh treatment of the cadet officers. I saw and conversed with him on the parade and in its palace at Warsaw in December, 1828. His looks and demeanour sufficiently denoted to a medical man what he was, and what his fate would be. It has been said that he died of cholera; again, that he had been despatched like his father. The physician-in-chief of the Polish military hospitals assured me some years after that he had died apoplectic and in a rage.

"Michael, after many years of suffering from the same complaints which afflict his only surviving brother—enlarged liver, deranged digestion, and fullness of blood in the head—became in 1848-9 intolerably irritable, violent, and tyrannical to his own officers of the artillery and engineers service, of which he was the supreme chief. In July, 1849, he consulted me at St. Petersburg. It was after he had passed in review the whole train of artillery which was leaving the capital for Hungary, at which review I was present and near him, and witnessed scenes of violent temper towards generals and aides-de-camp hardly equalled in a lunatic asylum. I found him as described above. I advised cupping, diet, non-exposure to the sun and to fatigue, the administration of suitable medicines, and the cessation from drinking steel mineral waters, of which he was fond ever since he had been at Kissingen. His physician, the younger Sir James Wylie (himself since suddenly dead), assented reluctantly, but did not carry my advice into execution. The Grand Duke, in the state he was, unrelieved by any medical measure or proper treatment, joined the army, rode out in the sun, and fell from his horse apoplectic in September, 1849, aged 48."

Dr. Granville received an acknowledgment of this letter from Lord Palmerston in his own handwriting, but the warning does not appear to have had any effect. The Doctor thus concludes his communication to the *Times*—

"At an interview with Lord Palmerston, February 23, 1854, on matters of a private nature, his lordship was pleased to ask me before we separated, whether I still adhered to my opinion and prediction. I replied, that before July, 1855 (the Emperor would then be 59 years old), what I had anticipated would happen. 'Let but a few reverses overtake the Emperor,' I added, 'and his death, like that of all his brothers, will be sudden.' It has proved so. Alma, Inkerman, Balaklava, shook the mighty brain. Eupatoria completed the stroke, which has anticipated my prognosis only by a few weeks."

THE SUCCESSION.

The Csesarwitsch Alexander, eldest son of the late Emperor, has received homage as successor to the throne; and the nobles and chief officers have taken the oath of allegiance.

A despatch from Königsberg, dated the 7th instant, and received at Berlin on the same day gives the following summary of the manifesto of the new Emperor of Russia:—

"The manifesto of Alexander II. has arrived. After announcing the sudden and severe illness of the Emperor Nicholas, which terminated in his death, it says that, as the deceased devoted himself incessantly for the welfare of his subjects, 'so do we also, on ascending the throne of Russia, and of Poland and Finland, inseparable from it, take a solemn oath before God to regard the welfare of our empire as our only object. May Providence, which has selected us for so high a calling, be our guide and protector, that we may maintain Russia on the highest standard of power and glory, and in our person accomplish the incessant wishes and views of Peter, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of our father. May the zeal of our subjects assist us therein. We invoke and command the oath of allegiance to us and to the heir to the throne, our son Nicholas Alexandrovitch.'"

The *Times* Paris correspondent has the following speculations on the present posture of affairs:—

"It has been often said that in the Imperial family itself a wide difference of opinion existed on the policy pursued by the late Emperor. The Grand Duke Alexander, the heir to the throne, was not believed to approve of it so ardently as his father desired; while his brother the Grand Duke Constantine's fanaticism had, on the contrary, to be rather repressed than encouraged. All reports describe the latter as passionate, headstrong, and profoundly ambitious,—a despot in heart and soul, without the tact of his father, or anything of the gentleness of his elder brother. It is related that the map of

the vast empire and its dependencies which the Emperor Nicholas ruled over, was the favourite study of the Archduke Constantine, and that when questioned he pointed out the portion of these territories which he would assign to his brother, and those which he would claim as his own, the latter having for its southern boundary the Bosphorus. If such be still the ruling passion, and, if there be means in his power to attempt to realize it, a civil war in Russia itself may be among the consequences."

EFFECT OF THE EMPEROR'S DEATH UPON THE FUNDS.

The sudden news of the death of the Emperor of Russia caused the stock-markets to open on Saturday morning with considerable excitement, and in the English funds an improvement took place of 2½ per cent. There was general activity in foreign securities, and prices in some cases advanced 2 or 3 per cent. Turkish and French scrip were most favourably influenced; large operations have taken place in both descriptions.—*Times, City Article, Monday.*

At Paris the funds rose rapidly, and Threes went up to 73. At the opening of the Bourse on Saturday, they were done at 72 fr., 71 fr. 50 c. After many variations, they closed at 71 fr. 85 c.

THE WAR.

THE degree of influence which the death of the Russian Emperor is likely to have upon the progress of the war is, of course, still uncertain, but in the mean while speculation has been busy. At the commencement of the week, sanguine hopes were entertained of the near approach of peace, and the Funds, both in England and France, rose rapidly in consequence; but opinion has since undergone a change, and it is questioned whether the new Czar will not find himself a creature of circumstances, and be forced, for sheer existence sake, to prosecute the war in spite of his own milder disposition. His declaration on ascending the throne speaks of following up the policy of his deceased father; and, if he will not, Constantine will. Probably, in anticipation of this, the French Emperor, since the death of Nicholas, has sent word to General Canrobert to prosecute the siege with all vigour, and people are now beginning to look forward to the assault.

The improvement in the state of affairs before the walls, to which we alluded last week, still continues. Nearly all the regiments are now provided with huts; and the *Times* correspondent says that scarcely a day now passes on which Lord Raglan does not inspect some part of the lines. The lines towards the searoad from Yalta have been much strengthened; the siege works of the Allies are making progress; and the condition of the men has changed greatly for the better. So much for the "evils" of free speech and criticism.

We quote the ensuing from the *Times* correspondent, writing on February 19:—

"The drying winds continue, and the plateau to the south of Sebastopol can be traversed easily on horse or foot, even at the bottom of the ravines. With this fine weather the good spirits and energies of our men have returned; but I regret to say the warm wind which blew the other day brought with it, or developed, the seeds of typhus fever, which broke out in several regiments lately, and soon marked some of the strongest men as its victims. The trenches are dry; the men get all they want, provisions are abundant; hay has arrived, and fresh vegetables have been sent up to the front to check the scurvy. The progress of the railroad is extraordinary. It is already completed out to the entrance of the village of Kadikoi, to-morrow it will have passed through it on its way out to the plateau, and on Wednesday it will be, in all probability, used for the transport of a cargo of shot and shell out so far from Balaklava in the intervals of the workmen's labour. The aspect of the town is greatly altered for the better. The wretched hovels in which the Turkish soldiery propagated pestilence and died have been cleaned out or levelled to the earth; the cesspools and collections of utter abominations in the streets have been filled up, and quick lime has been laid down in the streets and lanes, and around the houses. The sutlers have been driven forth to a wooden world of their own outside the town, and the number of visitors to the town diminished. Indeed, the railway, which sweeps right through the main street, very effectually clears away the crowds of stragglers who used to infest the place. It is inexpressibly strange to hear the well-known rumbling sound of the carriages and waggons as they pass to and fro with their freights of navvies, sleepers, and rails; it recalls home more strongly than anything we have yet heard in the Crimea."

ADDITIONAL DEFENCES.

Strong additional defences have been thrown up on the heights to the right of our position, and the advanced battery, covering the head of the harbour and sweeping the plain in all directions, is being rendered still more formidable by a new ditch and abattis. The new three-gun battery on the left of this is also

completed, and it is intended to construct another of eight guns on a very strong post between Balaklava and Kadikoi. With such defences, Balaklava would rival Sebastopol in strength if its garrison were only increased in proportion; but, though guns have been added, there is a part of the line, which of course I shall not specify, still very far from being efficiently manned in regard to numbers. If this matter is much longer overlooked, our chances of holding the place may any day be seriously diminished by the sudden appearance of a strong Russian force which might succeed in a well-planned, determined attack like that of Inkerman.—*Morning Herald Correspondent.*

RUMOURED RESIGNATIONS.

It is generally stated in the camp, and commonly believed, that the whole of the principal staff officers of the quartermaster-general's, adjutant-general's, and commissariat departments, have sent in their resignations. Rumour likewise states that General England intends resigning.

PROGRESS OF THE RAILWAY.

The railway is now progressing at the rate of a quarter of a mile per day, including all the delays which arise from bridging small streams, levelling, and filling up inequalities, &c. Half the men are employed in laying down the rails and sleepers during the day, and the remainder work all night in boxing up with earth and stones the spaces left between each sleeper. As an instance of the rapidity with which the work proceeds, a pile-driving machine was landed one evening, and carried piecemeal up to where it was necessary to sink piles for a stout wooden bridge across a small, but very muddy stream, which runs into the harbour. The machine was erected early the following morning, and before the evening the piles were all driven, the machine removed, the bridge finished, and the rails laid down for the space of a hundred yards beyond. The course of another week or ten days must see half the line completed, and, as far as it goes, in operation. Even forwarding the heavy guns and shells three miles will be, of course, an immense assistance.—*Morning Herald Correspondent.*

STATE OF THE HARBOUR.

There is not the least exaggeration in saying that, if the harbour was badly managed before, it is now ten times worse since the departure of Captain Powell, of the *Vesuvius*. That active officer was gradually getting the vessels into something like arrangement, and had got the masters to observe the rules which he had laid down, when he was suddenly ordered off to Constantinople, and since then everything has gone wrong. The ships now lie any way they please, blocking up the little landing places, impeding traffic, and injuring themselves. No vessel could now get her anchors up, and haul out, under a week's notice; and if we had anything like a severe gale, all the smaller vessels would be crushed by the large steamships between which they are jammed. Nothing can possibly be worse than our present arrangements for the shipping.—*Morning Herald Correspondent.*

NEW BATTERIES.

New batteries are being thrown up about a mile in advance of the spot where the battle of Inkerman was fought; and it is conjectured that in that direction the greatest efforts of the Allies will be made. The new engineer, General Jones, is said to be the author of this plan: it is known that he strongly condemned the manner in which the siege works had previously been conducted.

THE ATTACK ON EUPATORIA.

A despatch from Lord Raglan, dated February 20, and received by Lord Panmure on Thursday, encloses despatches from Omar Pacha, and from Colonel Simmons (attached to the head-quarters of the Turkish Commander), giving a detailed account of the battle of Eupatoria on the 17th. From these, it would seem that the affair was a very serious one; and from the great superiority of the Russians in artillery and cavalry, ought to have been successful on their side. It appears that they advanced at daybreak in great force, and opened with artillery upon the entrenchments which inclose the town.

"The enemy's artillery," says Colonel Simmons, "opened their fire about 1200 yards from the place, covered by skirmishers; and supported by heavy masses of infantry in their rear, and cavalry on their flanks. The artillery subsequently took up a second position more in advance, about 400 yards from a small crown work which is being erected in front of the mills to the north-east of the town, and after continuing their fire for some time, the infantry advanced to the attack, having formed under the cover of a wall about 600 yards from the right of the town. They were repulsed at this point, leaving from 150 to 200 dead on the field. On other points of the field a number of horses were left dead, but the killed men were removed. At length, about 10 A.M., the whole force retired, covered by the artillery and cavalry. As many as 60 of the enemy's guns must have been firing at one time, amongst them some 32-pounders. Prisoners report that they were accompanied by 100 guns. As yet, all the particulars I

have been able positively to ascertain is, that Liprandi's division (the 12th) was present."

In a second despatch, of a day later, Colonel Simons says that the losses of the Allies were as follow:

"Turks—97 killed; 277 wounded. French—4 killed; 9 wounded. Total combatants—101 killed; 286 wounded. Tartar population—13 killed; 11 wounded. Horses of the Turkish Army—79 killed; 18 wounded."

EUPATORIA.

"Of the Russian force and plan of attack Omar Pacha says:—

"As far as one could guess, and according to the information furnished by prisoners, the enemy mustered 36 battalions of infantry, 6 regiments of cavalry, 400 Cossacks, 80 pieces of artillery in position, and some troops of horse artillery, which were in reserve.

"The enemy continued his fire, without ceasing, from the position held by his artillery, supported by a powerful fire of skirmishers, and then his infantry, carrying planks and ladders, three times tried to storm the works. Each time it was repulsed, and obliged to retire under our fire, but it was enabled to effect this retrograde movement under cover of its artillery, and of heavy masses of cavalry.

"Our cavalry, which at the present moment only musters about 200 or 300 horses, and which charged the Russian infantry at the commencement of its retreat, did not dare to pursue it in the face of such heavy masses.

"This superiority in artillery and cavalry prevented our disturbing the Russians on their retreat. After four hours and a half fighting, they commenced retiring in three different directions, towards the bridge of Lake Sashk, towards Top Mamai, and towards the Perekop road."

"During the engagement, the Turks were aided by the French detachment, and by the English ships in the bay. Omar Pacha makes honourable mention of these, and also of the energetic conduct of the French steamer *Vélocé*. The Russian loss, it is thought, must have amounted to 453. The wounded were carried away, and only seven prisoners were taken. Omar Pacha states the Turkish loss in killed at only 87.

The *Times* correspondent at Eupatoria says the action lasted about three hours, and adds the following interesting particulars:—

"Among the Russian dead on the field were found the bodies of a woman, of the Greek Bishop of Eupatoria, and of the commander of the Greco-Slave Legion, which was formed by the Russians last year out of the Greeks settled in Moldo-Wallachia, and out of the Bulgarians who followed the Russians after their retreat from Silistria. Another woman was likewise killed, but carried off.

"According to the latest information, we have to do with Osten Sacken's corps, under the immediate command of Liprandi. Prince Menschikoff himself was present at the battle, and, according to an *on dit*, in the very carriage which was fired upon by the Turks from one of their batteries, and narrowly escaped being hit. Menschikoff is said to have returned."

PROFITS IN THE CRIMEA.

A Maltese tailor, who for some months sold clothes and mended them, has shut up his shop in the High-street, Balaklava, and gone back to Valetta. Those who ought to know say that he netted 200*l*. Abraham, a Jew, who as a civil servant got wages to the amount of 150*l*. a year, complained of the stinginess of his master, and struck for higher wages. Sent away, he opened a shop in November last. He, too, has retired from business with something like 3000*l*. or 4000*l*. A French sailor, who had at one time been a baker, established about three months ago the first bakery in Balaklava. He got possession of two ovens in one house; he hired gangs of French soldiers to bake for him, and to take their turns day and night. In London his loaves would sell for 2*d*. or 3*d*. In Balaklava they sold, and readily, as fast as they were shot out, for 2*s*. Now, reckon the flour (from Varna to Constantinople) as high as you will, and put a very high figure on the price of labour, still a loaf which a London baker can with profit sell for 3*d*. cannot cost the Balaklava baker more than 1*s*. So there is 1*s*. profit on each loaf, and I am credibly informed that above 1000 loaves were baked in twenty-four hours. The week in camp has seven working days, and the profits of a week amount to 7000 shillings; those of a month to 30,000 shillings, or 1500*l*. The baker has driven this trade about three months—profits, 4500*l*.—*Daily News Correspondent*.

DESPATCH FROM THE BLACK SEA.

The *London Gazette* of Friday, March 2nd, publishes a despatch from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, from which it appears that, from the 1st of February last, "the mouth of the river Dniester, the ports of Akermann, Ovidiopol, Odessa, all the ports situated between Ochakov Point and Kinbourn Point, including the ports of Nicolaiew and Kherson, the rivers Boug and Dniester; also the ports between

Kinbourn Point and Cape Tarkhan, including the ports in the Gulf of Perekop, the port of Sebastopol, the ports comprised between Cape Aia and the Strait of Kertsch, including those of Yalta, Aloushta, Soudak, Kaffa, or Theodosia; the port of Kertsch, the Strait of Kertsch, the entrance to and all the ports in the Sea of Azoff, including especially the ports of Berdiansk, Taganrog, and Arabat; the river Don, and also the ports of Anapa and Soudjak, were strictly blockaded by a competent force of the allied fleets of France and England. That the ports of Eupatoria, Strelzka, Kamiesch, Kazatch, and Balaklava were, and are, and will remain, open and free from all blockade until further notice; and it is hereby further notified, that all measures authorised by the law of nations, and the respective treaties between her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, and the different neutral Powers, will be adopted and executed with respect to all vessels which may attempt to violate the said blockade."

ENCOUNTER OF THE FRENCH WITH THE RUSSIANS.

Lord Raglan, in his despatch to Lord Panmure, dated Feb. 24, gives the following details of an encounter of the French with the Russians:—

"The troops of the (Russian) garrison having lodged themselves on the point of the spur of the ridge from Inkerman over the Careening Bay, at about 300 yards from the new French parallel, on the extreme right, General Canrobert determined to dislodge them; and this was gallantly effected at 2 o'clock this morning by 1500 men, under the immediate command of General Monet, and the direction of General Mayran, with however, I regret to say, some loss, the consequence of the heavy fire which was brought to bear upon them from the enemy's batteries and the shipping, whilst they were engaged in demolishing the works. When this object was accomplished, they withdrew to the trenches, as had been their intention. The gallant General Monet is, I am much concerned to add, among the wounded."

THE WEATHER IN THE CRIMEA.

The latest accounts say that there has been some return of the severe weather, and that the Tartars hint that there will even yet be more frost and snow.

THE ARMY OF ANATOLIA.

A letter from Erzeroum, published in the *Presse*, complains of the miserable state of the army of Anatolia, which, but for the exertions of Colonel Williams, an English officer, would have been utterly desperate. Some of the regiments have received no pay for more than two years; and this not for lack of money, but, as the writer affirms, from the proper funds having been intercepted by avaricious pachas. These gentlemen have, of course, strongly opposed themselves to the colonel; but he has received the appointment of a general of brigade in the English army, and that of a general of division in the Turkish service. To him has been confided the difficult task of reorganising the Ottoman army; and he will probably obtain the command. Baron Schwartzberg, a German, has been appointed inspector of the cavalry; the colonel of artillery is Calandrelli, an Italian, who distinguished himself by his defence of Rome; and other posts are occupied by other foreigners. The advanced posts of the Anatolian army are beyond Kars, in the direction of Gumri.

WAR MISCELLANEA.

The *Times* Berlin correspondent, writing on March 6, says:—"The deceased Emperor Nicholas had already recalled Prince Menschikoff from the Crimea, and given the chief command there to Prince Gortschakoff, and the second to General Osten-Sacken." Other accounts say that Osten-Sacken was to have the chief command.

We also find in the *Times* Berlin correspondence of March 6, the following despatch of Prince Menschikoff:—"On the night between the 21st and 22nd of February we erected a redoubt on the left flank of the fortifications of Sebastopol. This was done so promptly and unexpectedly that we received no annoyance from the enemy (the Allies). On the night between the 24th and 25th the enemy (the Allies) attacked the redoubt with considerable forces. Two regiments repulsed them. The enemy lost 600 men. The mining operations of the Allies have been suspended. Up to the 26th of February nothing new had occurred at Eupatoria."

SICKNESS IN THE FRENCH ARMY.—The last accounts received at Marseilles from Kamiesch state that considerable sickness still prevails among the French army before Sebastopol. I saw a letter yesterday from the captain of a large steamer to his owners, in which he states that 10,000 sick had been conveyed from the French camp to Constantinople during the month of January last, and that he fears the number will be equally great for the month of February. The writer is an excellent authority, as his steamer has been freighted by the French Government, and employed during some months in the

conveyance of troops and stores.—*Times Maritime Correspondent*.

LETTERS FROM ST. PETERSBURG, received at Constantinople on the 18th ult., state that Omar Pacha was then at the head of 42,000 excellent troops.

THE FIRE BRIGADE FOR THE CRIMEA.—The *Edina* (s.s.) chartered by Government, is loading in the river, off Horsleydown, for the Crimea. She will take out the body of firemen selected from the London fire-brigade force, and engines, for the protection of the hospitals at Scutari.

THE RAISING OF THE BLOCKADE OF THE DANUBE is considered certain.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

We learn from St. Petersburg that the decomposition of the body of the late Czar is so rapid as to render impossible any public lying in state. Various rumours are in circulation as to the causes of his death. A deputation of Prussian military men will be present at the funeral obsequies at St. Petersburg.

Vienna, Thursday, March 6.

Yesterday afternoon the first preliminary conferences took place. Prince Gortschakoff was not present.

The Porte has received M. Barozzi, the envoy of the King of Greece. It is probable that a Turkish ambassador will be accredited to the Greek Government.

The Kurdish insurrection is almost suppressed. The Pacha, governor of the province, has restored to their families seventeen Circassian children who had fallen into slavery.

The intelligence from Athens is to the 2nd of March. The English troops in Greece were preparing to proceed to Malta to complete the force destined for the Crimea. The editor of the journal *Esperance* has been arrested by order of the Greek Government, for having published an insulting article concerning the Allied Powers.

According to accounts from Asia, the Kurks, increased by the junction of several thousand Bah-bazouks, had pillaged and set fire to the town of Monch. The courier of the French Consul at Erzeroum is said to have been massacred.

The *Times* Paris correspondent says that the French Emperor's intended journey to the Crimea is objected to by Austria out of a fear that, should any catastrophe happen to his Majesty, the position of Austria would be extremely critical. In that case, either the Republican party, or Henri V., would come into power; and it is feared that the latter would form an alliance with Russia rather than with Austria, and that the French would be likely to revolutionise the Austrian states. It is believed that remonstrances of this nature have been addressed to the French Government, but with no effect. Letters from the Crimea, it is said, state that the army ardently longs for the presence of the Emperor. It is thought he will not start till the end of the present month, if, indeed, the death of the Czar should at all together change his intention.

Speaking of the Boulogne conference between the French Emperor and Lord Clarendon, the *Daily News* Paris correspondent says:—

"The room at Boulogne in which the conference was held was not, it appears, protected by those close-studded double doors which guard the secrets of the Council Chamber in the Tuilleries. A part of the discussion was so animated as to excite, and partly to gratify the curiosity of persons in the ante-room. No entire sentences were indeed heard, but some stray words pronounced in a tone of considerable excitement, reached ears for which they were not intended, and conveyed the impression that Lord Clarendon was remonstrating successfully against the Emperor's proposed voyage to the Crimea."

From Spain we hear that the Cortes have voted, by a majority of 200 against 52, the basis of the new constitution. The *Espana* says that the Carlists have resolved to abandon their projected insurrection, in consequence of the opposition of the French authorities; and it adds that the French ambassador had informed the Minister of Foreign Affairs that those authorities had received orders to remove from the frontier any suspicious persons who may be indicated to them by the Spanish Government.

General Real, whose arrest has been announced, has been set at liberty. He protests that there was not the slightest reasonable pretext for taking him into custody.

The Greek ambassador, M. Skings, has lately had several interviews with Count Buol, in conjunction with the Turkish envoy, Arif Effendi, which meetings are said to have removed, in a great measure, the existing difficulties between Greece and the Porte.

The Belgian ministry has resigned in consequence of the Chamber having voted, on several occasions, against the Minister of the Interior.

A letter received in Marseilles from Corsica confirms a previous report that the French frigate *Sémillante*, having on board four hundred troops and military stores for the Crimea, had been totally lost on the rocks called the Islands of Lavezzi and Cavallo, during a storm on the 16th ult. The lights in the lighthouse had been blown out, and the night was so dark that it was impossible to see anything ahead. The crew, it is said, consisted of five hundred men, and all were lost. Report affirms that the vessel was not seaworthy, and that the captain's remonstrances had been disregarded.

From Denmark we receive intelligence that the King has been confined to his bed for a week by a severe cold and cough, accompanied by slight fever; and that the Volkething has resolved to impeach the late Ministers of War, Marine, and Finance.

The shock of an earthquake has been felt at Constantinople. Broussa has been almost destroyed by an earthquake, and two thousand lives are said to have been lost.

The Empress of Austria has been delivered of a Princess; and a general amnesty for political offences is decreed in consequence.

Mlle. Doudet, a French governess, has been recently acquitted, at the Court of Assizes of the Seine, on a charge of causing the death of two English children, daughters of Dr. Marsden, by excessive ill-usage. One of the witnesses for the defence said that Mlle. Doudet had formerly been in the service of Queen Victoria; and added the remarkable fact that her Majesty, since the commencement of the proceedings, had directed her Secretary to communicate with the French authorities, and express her high sense of the merits of the accused.

All Paris on Tuesday last was full of the rumour of barricades at St. Petersburg. The party of Constantine had attacked and beaten the party of Alexander, &c.

A man was condemned the other day in one of the French provinces to fine and imprisonment, for sitting drinking beer with his hat on during the passage of the Host. There is no law to this effect: but the judge, incited by the clergy, decided that "the presence of the religious procession temporarily changed the street into a church, and punished him as if he had been guilty of profaning a place of public worship." Such acts of violence and injustice will certainly hasten on the terrible reaction that is preparing. The Church will repent this straining of its powers, and the Government is very imprudent that permits it.

The veteran and universally respected republican, M. Dupont (de l'Eure), has recently died at his estate at Rougesperre.

A despatch from Turin announces that the Piedmontese Government had published a species of manifesto, in reply to M. Nesselrode's circular declaring war against Piedmont.

REPORTED DEATH OF THE GRAND DUKE MICHAEL.—News has been transmitted to Vienna from Varna that the Grand Duke Michael, brother of the new Czar, has been killed before Sebastopol.

FRENCH FOREIGN ENLISTMENT.—The *Lausanne Gazette* states that the second Foreign Legion, in the service of France, had already its full complement of men, double the number required having presented themselves to enlist. Among the officers are several belonging to the most distinguished families.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL reached Vienna on Sunday, and has had an audience with the Emperor. He was present on Wednesday at the christening of the young princess.

STATE OF THE KAFIR FRONTIER.

The latest arrivals from the Cape of Good Hope speak of the alarmed state of the Kafir frontier. Early in December a rumour flew along the settlements to the effect that Anta, a noted Kafir chief had entered the forbidden region of the Amatolos, and ver "that was inevitable." The magistrates instantly gave the field-comets notice to hold their men in readiness to take the field. It was harvest time. Ripe and heavy crops covered the ground; and scores of frightened farmers left them behind, and hurried to the posts for shelter. Nevertheless, it turned out that the rumour was nearly groundless. Minute search made by the military brought to light not a trace of a single Kafir beyond the frontier. The British commissioner, Colonel Maclean, writing on the 20th of December, reports that Anta had presented himself to him at Fort Murray, and denied having entered the Amatolos at all. The origin of the rumour was a petty quarrel, on the extreme boundary, between a couple of settlers and half-a-dozen Kafirs.

BELGIAN POLITICS.

(From a Correspondent.)

Brussels, March 6.

Our Ministry has just resigned. We are in the midst of a crisis, a sort of parody of the comedy lately played in England. The apparent motives of the retreat of the late Cabinet are of secondary importance, but from the crisis there may spring com-

plications which would throw us into serious difficulties. The two parties which dispute power, and which represent the two great sections of the country, the Liberals and the Catholics, differ not only on questions of administrative interest, but on questions of principle, in which are involved the most serious interests of the country. The great question of the moment is, whether we shall abandon that neutrality which forms one of the principal bases of our political existence.

The Catholic party is favourable to the Western Alliance. One of its most influential organs, the *Emancipation*, edited by a member of the Chamber of Representatives, has been for some time urging the country to declare itself against Russia, and suggests the promise of an extension of boundaries on the Prussian frontier in support of its policy. This journal is under the political and financial patronage of the Prince de Chimay, who plays just now the part of an *ambassadeur marron*, unaccredited to the Court of the Tuileries, but its articles find little response in the country. All the liberal journals have protested, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs himself has replied in the Chamber in very energetic terms to the Catholic journal.

The late Cabinet was by no means favourable to the alliance, and on that subject it was even, I believe, at issue with the Chief of the State. So long ago as the visit of the King to the French Emperor at Calais and Boulogne, rumours of alliance got abroad, and the Ministry made a Cabinet question of the King's journey. They all resigned, and only resumed office provisionally. It seems probable that only three of the late Ministry will definitively retire: MM. Liedts, Faider, and Tiertot. The position of the last-named was no longer tenable. Burgomaster of Liege—the most liberal town in Belgium—he had been forced to compromise his principles by proposing to the Chamber a convention, which admits the authority of the Catholic clergy in the national education. This concession, extorted by the clerical party, deprived him at once and entirely of the sympathy of the Chamber, exposed him to the reproaches of his oldest and best friends, and to difficulties and obstacles even within his own administration. He is now driven into private life, where no regrets follow him. M. Faider, Minister of Justice, has not recovered from the law which, under the pressure of the Government of France, he had the weakness to propose two years since for restraining that liberty of the press which Belgium holds so dear. Since then, all the most advanced members of the Right, MM. de Perceval and Verhaegen among others, have pursued him with reproaches. Perhaps he too retires in disgust. M. Liedts only entered the Cabinet as a provisional Minister, and has always sought an opportunity to resign. These three Ministers will go, the others remain. But as the Chamber has to vote measures for the national defence, it must be soon convoked, the Cabinet, excepting M. Tiertot, retaining its functions *ad interim*. These details are of little importance as yet, but it is right you should be accurately informed of them, as they may lead to eventualities of European consequence.

On a recent occasion, Lord Derby took the liberty in the House of Lords to indulge in jokes, as imprudent as they were false, upon the bravery of our army. Public opinion here has been very indignant at the insult, and a General Officer, M. Renard, has published a series of letters in reply to Lord Derby's attack. He proves from history that England was mainly indebted to the Belgian army for the victory at Waterloo. These letters, republished in the form of a brochure, have been received with immense favour throughout the country. The Senate and the Chamber have voted thanks to the writer, and a sword is to be presented to him. Lord Derby was treated with great severity by our parliamentary speakers. Public opinion is incensed against England, because not a single speaker rose to protest against the imputations of Lord Derby. It is not thus that international friendships are established.

THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

The inquiry into the state of the British army before Sebastopol commenced on Monday morning at one o'clock. The committee consisted of Mr. Roebuck, chairman; Lord Seymour, Mr. J. Ball, Mr. Bramston, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Ellice, Mr. Layard, Colonel Lindsay, Sir John Pakington, Sir John Hanmer, and General Peel.

Mr. George Dundas, M.P. for Linlithgowshire, was the first witness. He said that in December last he went to the Crimea, and made a practice of constantly riding up to the camp at Balaklava. The state of the horses in the cavalry camp was very bad. They were standing on their pickets, quite unprotected from the weather, and had very little to eat. Many of the horses had died recently, and when he first visited the place their bodies were lying on the ground. Almost every other horse was on the ground. A considerable quantity of bran, in bag

was lying on the shore of Balaklava, and a large quantity of hay was floating about the harbour, or washed upon the beach; but this might have come from the wreck of the 14th, and might not be chargeable to the authorities. The men were in a state of dirt, rags, and misery. He had seen men bind sandbags round their legs to protect themselves from the mud and cold. He had heard from several officers that the rations were very indifferent. On the 3rd of December they had no provisions at all, on account of the inefficient state of the road. Half rations were very common, and the arrears were never made up. If the men had half a meal to-day and had full rations to-morrow, the arrears were not made up on the morrow. He also understood from officers, that the quality or nature of the rations given were not such as to keep the soldiers in heart. The men were very badly shod, the soles of their shoes were frequently parted from the upper leathers; and it was impossible it should be otherwise, for the men were out at night in the trenches in the wet, and they had no facility for changing or drying their shoes. As to their housing, they were in tents. All the fuel they could get was grabbed-up roots from a species of underwood in the neighbourhood of the camp, while there was great labour to get at it. It was damp, and made very bad fuel. There was no regular supply of fuel. There was a little supply of charcoal, and in small quantities. There was abundance of fuel near the harbour. He had never seen any fodder piled up for the artillery or cavalry. Was not aware that there was a depot at Constantinople. A large quantity of grain was shipped in this country in the month of May; and it was only by strong representations as late as December that the captain could get it removed from his ship to Balaklava. The roads were very bad—in some places up to the knees in mud. Balaklava was full of water, and dirty. The English burying-ground was full of graves, which immediately filled with water. He remembered seeing a cart carrying ten bodies from the hospital; they were probably all put into one hole. The graves could not have been more than three feet deep. The Turkish burying-ground was above the town on the slope of the hill; and its effects in hot weather will be very deleterious. No attempts were made to construct a landing-place; no order was given for a pier. The hospital at Balaklava was in good condition. There was a great want of medicine in the camp; and there were no beds or stretchers there. The officers, being men of fortune, were more comfortably off than the privates. He understood that the difficulty in obtaining forage was the procuring the signed receipts. The French horses generally were in better condition than ours. He had heard that the process of cooking the food was impeded by the want of fuel. He was told on good authority that the deaths in the camp were about 100 a day; but perhaps that was rather over the mark. He remembered seeing on one day 600 sick brought down from the lines in French ambulances. He frequently saw that the men were reduced to eating their rations raw, in consequence of the want of fuel. The coffee was distributed green, and the men had no means either to roast or grind it.

General Sir De Lacy Evans was next examined by the chairman. In answer to a question as to the preparations at Varna for the reception of the soldiers, he said there was wherewithal to eat, and he saw no pressing necessity. There was a great deal of difficulty in providing good sites for the encampment of troops in the neighbourhood of places where there was an ill supply of water. About a month before the army started for the Crimea the cholera broke out; but of his division, which consisted of six thousand men, only sixty died. The sickness perhaps arose from depression at having been kept so long inactive. He arrived at Eupatoria on the 12th or 10th of September. After the second day of disembarkation he found the French had disembarked with small tents, and it was found desirable to have the tents brought on shore, and they received them. They were then authorised to send down two miles and a half to the beach for the tents; but it was then found that the means of transport did not exist, and an order was given to send them back to Eupatoria, and the tents were returned on the morning of the march to Alma. They were put to great inconvenience the first night from the rain. The battle of the Alma took place on the 20th. They moved on the morning of the 17th or 18th, and between the 18th and 20th they were without tents, and they remained so till the following 29th or 30th of the month. The road from the harbour of Balaklava was dreadfully wet. He thought that if 1000 men had been employed upon it for ten days they would have rendered it practicable; and he did not know why they should not be so employed; but he believed all the men who could be spared were employed in the trenches. The soldiers suffered much who were under his command. They at first were well while the weather was dry; but after the rainy weather set in he was sorry to say they suffered severely. Was not aware that any firewood was served to the troops; they heard of charcoal; they

were told a cargo of charcoal. The state of the clothing was not bad at the time, but before he left it was getting very indifferent—there was no warm clothing served out. In regard to food, there was a constant pressure upon the troops arising from the want of means of transport. The two departments on which due provision depended were the commissariat and the quartermaster-general's. He had many conflicts in respect to the commissariat; some of the gentlemen in that department were very inefficient—they might do very well as clerks of the Treasury. They were always employed in writing letters to the Treasury; and as soon as he found out this he made strong representations. This created controversy. One man, he believed, lost his senses. The effective persons who replaced these individuals provided his division with food. His division suffered much; but lost only one-fourth in comparison with others. The deaths were chiefly from diarrhoea. He attributed the better fate of his division to the fact of its having had a better commissariat attached to it. There were no wooden huts. They had not arrived when he left Balaklava. He left soon after the battle of Inkerman. There was no medical dépôt attached to the division. The condition of the horses was then not very bad. The horses of the artillery were better from their having regular rations, not only of barley, but of forage of hay or straw very often. His impression was that there was an inadequacy in the commissariat. As to the ambulance corps of pensioners, he was told they were liable to excess in their potatoes.

The examination of Sir De Lacy Evans was continued on Tuesday. He stated that very little preparation appeared to have been made for the sick; he believed the war was commenced under the impression that there would be no wounds at all. The ambulance carts were not without their utility; but they were too heavy. He could not say exactly when he first saw them in the Crimea. The French mode of conveying the wounded, by mules alone, did well enough in a rough, hilly country; but in serious cases he should imagine that mode was not a good one. As to the men remaining for a long period without change of clothing, that was the case with officers as well as men; he had himself only one coat. The tents were very indifferent, and some of them, he believed, had been used in the Peninsular war. The hospital tents were the best that could be got. They were large; and if tents were necessarily used for hospitals, they were very fair; they had the advantage of good ventilation. The bedding was very insufficient and unsatisfactory. Unfortunately, these tents were often inconveniently crowded, but he did not think the men were always absolutely on the bare ground. He thought the French *tente d'abri* carried by the men was useful for summer weather and on rapid marches, but not for winter. He had not examined them, and could not say whether they would be advisable for the English army. There were no quays at the water-edge for landing, nor anything of the kind. They were occasionally encumbered, but he observed nothing extraordinary. He had heard that men sent down for clothing had been detained the whole day in consequence of the confusion in the town. He had not heard of any dépôts being erected in the camps, in case the communication with Balaklava had been cut off. Had the road been in the hands of the enemy, the inconvenience to the troops would have been lamentable, but not irremediable. He firmly believed the war was commenced under the delusion that matters would be settled without any explosion of gunpowder, and that there was no necessity for any magazines at all. Though the Commissariat was under the control of the Commander, yet it was closely connected also with the Treasury, and the officers must have had the impression that laying out the money required was extravagance. That was his conviction. Arrangements were not made to enable them to take the field at once. He thought the Government was still waiting for notes and protocols from Vienna, and no great exertions were made to put the army in a condition to move. The Russians were carrying on the siege of Silistria, and still the army was not in readiness to move. With respect to the age of Mr. Filder, the head of the Commissariat, Sir De Lacy said that he had been in the Peninsula, and could not, therefore, be very young. The sanitary state of the camp it was the business of the staff to look after; and it was the duty of the Commander-in-Chief to make them perform their business. He saw no occasion for the appointment of a sanitary officer. He thought it would be inconvenient. As far as his own staff went, he denied the charge of nepotism. The fatigue of the men was injurious. From the first the work cut out for them was entirely beyond their numerical strength. The overwork during the nights was decidedly the main cause of the suffering of the army. In the Crimea there was not the advantage of shelter in villages as in the campaigns of Spain, and the troops had not materials for building any. He had never seen any English soldiers in French clothing. He recollected the French making them a present of 20,000 rations

of bread. There ought to have been no difficulty in conveying stores from the port to the camps. The clothing of the soldiers might have been materially improved, considering all that science has done during the last forty years; but no light waterproof coats or sheets had been distributed. The mining tools were bad, and the soil of the trenches was hard.

Mr. Dundas, M.P., was recalled, and continued his evidence of the previous day, confining his testimony to the state of the sick on board the *Timor*. No preparation had been made for the reception of the 299 sick soldiers on board. They were laid on the bare deck with one or two blankets for a covering. The air between decks was very offensive. There were only three medical men, and of these two became ill. At Scutari it was seven days before all the men could be landed; but with proper hospital accommodation they might have been landed in one day. He believed each medical man had to attend on ninety sick.

The Committee adjourned shortly after half-past three.

At the meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, and again on Thursday, General Bentinck, commander of the Brigade of Guards, was examined. His evidence was to much the same effect as that of Sir De Lacy Evans: he spoke of the injurious effect upon the men's health of the hard work in the trenches; of the want of winter clothing and of medicine; of the wretched nature of the tools with which the pioneers had to work (though the same tools had been tried and found wanting at Chobham); and of the deficiency in the means of transport. The other witnesses examined on the two days were—Mr. Stephen Owen, the only surviving officer of the transport ship *Resolute*, one of the vessels wrecked near the port of Balaklava in the storm of the 14th of November; Captain Wrottesley, of the Royal Engineers; Dr. Vaux, surgeon of the Harbinger steamer; and Mr. Layard, M.P.; all of whom spoke to various instances of mismanagement. The Committee adjourned to Friday.

THE RE-ELECTIONS.

LORD John Russell was re-elected for the City of London on Saturday. Mr. H. J. Prescott having proposed, and Mr. J. Dillon seconded, the nomination, Mr. J. Stoner expressed a hope that the citizens of London would put an end to the political career of Lord John Russell, on account of his Puseyitical tendencies. He concluded by proposing Sir Charles Napier; but the nomination was not seconded. The following resolution was then put, and unanimously carried:—

"That at a period like the present, when, by gross mismanagement on the part of the executive Government, the high position of this country in the scale of nations has been in danger of being compromised, the citizens of London in common hall, having elected as their representative in Parliament the noble lord who has accepted office as one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, desire to place upon record the fact that they have discharged this duty in the earnest hope and trust that the Government of which the noble lord is so important a member, will immediately and firmly grapple with and effectually remove the causes of that disastrous mismanagement which has been displayed in the conduct of the present war, and which, whether it has arisen from adherence to routine in the departments, from the incapacity of the men presiding over and employed in them, or from the overwhelming influence of political patronage, must, if left unremedied, involve the honour, the safety, and the free institutions of this country in extreme peril."

Mr. P. A. Taylor, who declared that "the four points" are disgraceful and traitorous, and that England desires a movement in favour of the depressed nationalities, moved:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting no treaty with Russia will be satisfactory that does not enforce some material territorial clause."

The Sheriff having declined to put the resolution, Mr. Taylor submitted it himself, when a large number of hands were held up in its favour. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Sheriffs.

On the same day Sir Charles Wood was re-elected for Halifax. In a brief speech, Sir Charles expressed his thanks for the honour which the electors had done him, and explained that although the bills for the reform of Indian affairs which he had passed while in his recent office, had given him a great desire to remain in that department, and watch over their execution, he had felt it his duty to accept the post of First Lord of the Admiralty under the present Government, at the desire of his colleagues. Referring to the death of the Emperor of Russia, he said:—

"God forbid that we should rejoice at any man being suddenly called away from this world. But, if ever calamities are to be attributed to the will of one man, the

present war, with all its fatal consequences, is to be attributed to the overweening ambition of the Emperor of Russia. It was necessary for the rest of Europe to resist the ambitious spirit of aggrandisement which threatened the liberties and independence of his neighbours, and would, if successful, have put him in a position to exercise a predominant influence over the affairs of Europe. It was necessary to resist; and, until that resistance was made successful, at whatever hazard, it is imperative upon us to carry on the war. (*Cheers.*) But we should be wanting in our duty to the country, if we neglected to avail ourselves of the first opportunity of making an honourable and safe peace. I cannot but hope that the event which has happened may tend to produce that result."

Mr. Vernon Smith was on Monday re-elected for Northampton, having met with only a feeble resistance from a Mr. J. J. Lockhart, a Liberal, who did not go to the poll. In answer to that gentleman's assertion that Mr. V. Smith had voted against inquiry into the conduct of the war, the latter observed:—

"I have been for inquiry, I am for inquiry, and those who assert the contrary say what is absolutely, totally, and unconditionally false. (*Cheers.*) The first act of the committee has been to propose to make themselves a secret committee, but the House of Commons, at the instigation of my noble friend Lord Seymour, has refused to grant their request, and has insisted upon your knowing everything that passes in the committee-room. And everything that passes in that room you must and you shall know, as well as everything that passes before the committee; you have a right to be heard, and if you return me I will claim that right on your behalf. (*Cheers.*) Now with regard to this war. With the origin of the war I had nothing to do. When it commenced I was not in office, and as our Parliament and our Government are constituted, it is most difficult to ascertain anything upon the subject of our foreign relations. If you ask a question on the subject before war is declared, you are immediately told to be silent or you may bring on the war; if you say anything after it is declared, you are again met with 'Hush, hush, for we may still maintain peace'; and, after any evil event has happened, you are told that you will only add to the calamity by making a noise about it."

On the Monday, Sir George Cornwall Lewis was re-elected for Radnor, without opposition. In his speech to the electors, he expressed a hope—drawn from a parallel passage of Russian history after the sudden death of Paul in 1801—that the decease of the Emperor Nicholas would lead to peace.

On Tuesday, Mr. Horsman was returned for Stroud. Speaking of the neglect from which our armies had suffered, he said:—

"Everything appeared to have been sent out for the army, but it was sent at the wrong time, or to the wrong place, or got into the wrong hands. We sent out an enormous quantity of ammunition, for instance, but the batteries were often without shot; immense quantities of provisions were despatched, but the army was frequently on half-rations; large supplies of clothing were sent out, but the soldiers were in rags; the cavalry was splendidly mounted, but the horses were dying of cold. They sent out nurses to the hospitals, but they wrote home piteously for lint, and, although abundance of lint was sent out, they had been told that some of the poor wounded soldiers had their amputated limbs dressed with hay. (*Sensation.*) If they went on with their inquiry, they would find the whole of the system the same—they were the slaves of routine (*loud cheers*)—they were under bondage to red tape—they wanted a younger, fresher, and a heartier system, with more life and activity in it; and, above all, they wanted a system adopted by which merit, and merit only, should be the first qualification for public employment."

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AND THE SOLDIERS' WIVES AND FAMILIES.

The first anniversary meeting of the Central Association in aid of soldiers' wives and families was held at Willis's Rooms, on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Duke of Cambridge. His Royal Highness, after some remarks in defence of the regimental officers, gave some particulars of the progress of the Association:—

"This association was formed about a year ago. The liberality of the public has been very great towards it, and I am gratified to think that no less than 104,000l. has been subscribed. (*Cheers.*) 34,000l. has been already expended. I am happy to say that 64,000l. is still in hand. That is a large sum, but the outgoings are very considerable, amounting now to at least 1000l. per week. The funds, therefore, would very soon come to an end if the association were not liberally supported by the public. I have the pleasure of informing you that in addition to the number of soldiers' wives who have been relieved by the association, situations have been obtained for no fewer than 300—a proof that, while the association is

endeavouring to maintain these women, it is not losing sight of the necessity for their being employed and taking care of themselves so far as lies in their power. The association confers peculiar benefits upon the unfortunate sick and wounded soldier. The soldiers of our army have the means of remitting home to their families a portion of their pay, and it is gratifying to find that very considerable remittances have been from time to time sent by them; but the moment that they go into hospital their pay virtually ceases—at least, it is so reduced that they have not the means of sending home any portion of it. This must be a most painful situation to the men; and it is that class of cases which the association is at this time more especially called upon to meet, for we know, unfortunately, how large a number of sick and wounded there are at present in the hospitals.

Major Powys, the hon. secretary, then read the report, to the main features of which the Duke had alluded. It is only necessary to add that the number of soldiers' wives at this moment relieved by the association exceeds 5000, and the number of children exceeds 8000. There are now 95 local committees in connexion with the association, including those at Constantinople, Malta, Gibraltar, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, Nova Scotia, &c. No less than 80,000l.—by far the greater part of the receipts—has been obtained through the medium of church collections. The total subscriptions have amounted to 104,855l. The disbursements in actual relief have amounted to 34,643l.; and there now remains a balance of 64,379l., "which," adds the report, "in the short space of a year will all be spent."

On the motion of the Duke of Cambridge, the report was adopted.

PEACE MEETING AT MANCHESTER.

The meeting at the Peace Society's Rooms, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, adjourned from last week, took place on Tuesday night. Mr. George Wilson in the chair. Mr. Bright said, they held by the doctrine of non-intervention. Had there been no interference with Russia and Turkey, the dispute might have been settled in a fortnight. The Ministry and the people had been plunged into this war by the press. Some simple-minded persons thought that out of this contest would come freedom for the oppressed nationalities; but we were in fact oppressing the nationality of the Greeks. In short, the war would for a time, strengthen despotisms. Alluding to our immense naval force, Mr. Bright said:—

"We sent it to the Baltic, deprived the poor Finlanders of their salt, and destroyed timber and tar, the latter being the property of our own merchants, purchased to supply the wants of our own Admiralty. We sent a fleet to Kamtschatka, and were defeated and driven from Petropaulovski. We had a large naval armament in the Black Sea, with transports more numerous and of greater tonnage than the whole mercantile marine of many countries, and no calculation we could make would give any idea of the enormous expense we were going to in pursuit of what he believed to be a phantom of the very wildest character." (Cheers.)

The country was plunged into great distress by the war.

"A visit to the shops of the pawnbrokers and those who did not deal in first-class goods, and a visit, also, to the houses of the poorer classes all over the country, would show the sacrifices we were making on a point of honour, and that, for the sake of the fall of Sebastopol and our military renown, we were paying the price of education, civilisation, morality, nay of life itself, among vast numbers of the people." (Cheers.)

Mr. Bright furthermore observed that we could derive no good from taking Sebastopol, as it was impossible to penetrate into the country; and expressed his opinion that "now, emphatically now, is the time when Russia is likely to make the most concessions, and when peace could be made with the greatest results." He was not sure that some association for the purpose of teaching the people of this country the doctrine of non-intervention should not be established.

Mr. J. Sturge having delivered the startling piece of intelligence "that there, perhaps, never was a monarch more beloved by his subjects, whether he deserved it or not, than the late Emperor Nicholas," and some other gentlemen having spoken, a motion was carried that a memorial, urging upon Government to use their endeavours to negotiate an early peace, be drawn up and placed for public signature. The meeting then adjourned till next Tuesday.

STATE OF TRADE, LABOUR, AND THE POOR.

TRADE still continues, with a few exceptions, in a very depressed state all over the kingdom; and the poor, as a consequence, are suffering great hardships. At Manchester the cotton-yarn and cloth market remains unsatisfactory. The linen trade has shown no signs of increased activity; and the news of the death of the Russian Emperor has not had the effect of enhancing business. The iron trade of South Staffordshire, on the cessation of the frost, became

more active; but still orders are not abundant, and some works are only partially employed. The price of copper, however, remains extremely firm, and the supply comparatively scarce. In Staffordshire, the heavy iron foundry and machinist businesses are dull and inactive. The boiler-manufacture, however, continues alert, on account of the large orders for marine purposes. The watch trade in Coventry is flat; and the glass trade of Birmingham is so reduced, that the principal firms in the town have put their work-people on three days' employment a week. The gun-makers of the same town, too, are but ill employed. From Nottingham we learn that the hosiery and lace trades have experienced a slight improvement; but the hosiery trade of Leicester is still very depressed; many hands have been turned off, and an immense increase of pauperism over that of last year has taken place. The carpet trade of Kidderminster is languishing. At Leeds, the tone of the cloth markets has been more satisfactory, owing, it would seem, to the news of the Czar's death. A vast number of persons are out of employment at Bradford; and the demands upon the workhouse have been unusually great.

The advent of the thaw, though it has greatly lessened the sufferings of the poor, has not by any means removed them. The lack of work now observable in many of our industrial towns, is unfortunately owing to causes more permanent than the recent frost, and will probably not disappear until the country at large, and indeed the whole of Europe, is in a more settled condition.

The Board of Trade returns for the month ending the 5th of February were issued last Saturday morning, and show a falling off of 227,746l. in the declared value of our exportations as compared with the corresponding month of last year. The imported articles have likewise suffered a diminution, with the exception of tea and sugar, which exhibit an increase.

THE AUSTRALIAN INSURRECTION.

THE disturbances in Australia, which began with a simple riot, may be said to have since mounted into a positive rebellion. From the *Singapore Straits Times* of January 16th, we learn that Mr. Commissioner Rede was a prisoner in the hands of the diggers; that several of the soldiers had been shot, and many of the diggers slain. Mr. Foster, the Colonial Secretary, having excited the especial wrath of the insurrectionists, that functionary voluntarily resigned, rather than cause embarrassment and further danger. All the Government officials at Melbourne had been sworn in as special constables, so that in the post-office business was entirely suspended. The diggers had raised the banner of independence; and, according to the *Melbourne Argus*, "the colonists were engaged in a civil war." The middle classes, however, were on the side of order. A Government *Gazette Extraordinary* was issued on December 4th, which proclaimed martial law within the district of Buninyong from noon of December 6th; but it was specially declared that no sentence of death should be carried into execution without his Excellency's express consent.

A special correspondent of the *Melbourne Morning Herald* says that, "About four o'clock on the morning of December 3rd, the military surrounded the camp formed by the armed diggers at Eureka, in which there were about 200 men. A body of mounted troopers fired over the heads of the diggers, and then the troops poured in repeated volleys, which were returned by the diggers. After firing for about ten minutes the insurgents pulled down their banner—the Southern Cross—and surrendered. The troops immediately ceased firing, and took their prisoners. 123 prisoners were taken, and about 26 killed. I, myself, counted 21 dead bodies, all dead from gunshot wounds. A large number of tents in the vicinity of the battle-field were burned. The casualties on the part of the camp are:—1 private of the 12th; 2 ditto, 40th, killed; Captain Wise, dangerously wounded; Lieutenant Paul, severely ditto; about thirty rank and file wounded. A large number of persons were arrested; among others Mr. Seekamp, of the *Ballarat Times*."

The camp of the diggers was constructed of piles of slabs collected from the neighbouring holes. The following additional particulars are from the correspondent of the *Melbourne Argus*:—"In the case of Captain Wise, amputation is considered necessary, he having received two wounds in the leg. Nearly all the ringleaders are taken. Fifteen are lying dead in the Eureka camp. Sixteen are dangerously wounded. A German has received five different wounds. The Eureka Camp, as well as the stores and tents in the neighbourhood, have been burnt to the ground. The London Hotel is the chief repository for the dead and wounded. Several waggons containing the wounded and the confiscated property have passed on the way to the camp. At present every one is as if stunned, and but few are to be seen about. The flag of the diggers, 'The Southern Cross,' as well as the 'Union Jack,' which they had to hoist underneath, were captured by the foot police."

EXPEDITION AGAINST THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT.

A NEW movement is threatened in the United States against Cuba. By recent American advices we learn that the Navy Department had issued orders to New York, New Orleans, and Boston, to keep in a state of readiness certain steam vessels chartered by Government, to be used, according to general belief, against a revolutionary expedition to Cuba. The *New York Herald* says that Alvarado Hunter is soon expected to join the Kinney expedition, and that "the Kinney volunteers are willing to risk the outside chances, suspecting, as they do, that after passing by the western end of Cuba, in the Caribbean Sea, they will tack about, turn their backs upon the Mosquito Coast, and make all sail for the eastern end of Cuba, 600 miles from Havannah and the body of the Spanish troops. By this movement they count upon a successful landing and such a revolutionary rising as will enable them to march triumphantly from the eastern to the western extremity of the island, gathering strength as they go, like a rolling snowball. The Quitman organisation and the Filibustering Juntas in New York and New Orleans are said to be branches of the Kinney expedition, which is to pioneer the way. The treasury of the Filibusters at New Orleans, we learn, is able to command at any time a million and a half of money, and that all concerned are preparing for a terrible surprise to General Concha. You will have perceived that he is alarmed, and is enrolling the Mulattoes, and making all the usual preparations for repelling an impending invasion. English and French vessels of war are also mysteriously increasing at Havannah and that neighbourhood."

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post*, writing on March 4th, says:—"A despatch, received to-day from Cadiz, announces a conspiracy in Cuba for the purpose of assassinating General Concha, and furthering the invasion of the Filibusters. Numerous arrests had taken place. A ship and munitions of war had been seized in America."

It is reported that General Concha has sent to Porto Rico for more troops. In Havannah great excitement prevailed, and new militia companies were being formed. The whole island had been declared in a state of siege, and a proclamation had been issued, ordering the enlistment of all volunteers between the ages of eighteen and fifty who were capable of bearing arms. A military commission had been created for the eastern part of the island. The British ship of the line *Boscawen*, and the steamer *Medea*, were engaged in conveying troops; and a decree was being enforced, prohibiting the sale of fire-arms and ammunition. Numerous arrests had been made, including, it was reported, the Governors of Matanzas, Puerto Principe, and Trinidad, the private secretary of General Concha, and the managing director of the Cardenas Railroad. General Concha had issued a warning proclamation against insurrectionary movements.

A conspiracy against the Government has been discovered in Cuba. On the 7th ult. several persons were arrested at Havannah, charged with a design of assassinating the governor-general. It is said that the conspirators proposed to establish the constitution of Spain to the cry of "Long live the Queen!" and that Pinto, one of the conspirators, observing that "the tree of liberty, to become fruitful, must be watered with blood," said that he would assassinate the captain-general in his box at the opera. Information was given to General Concha that three expeditions would arrive on the coasts of Cuba from the United States, simultaneously with the assassination. It is believed that one part of the American expedition has already left Baltimore; but numerous Spanish men-of-war are cruising off the coast, and the Government, it is affirmed, is fully prepared for resistance on shore.

OUR CIVILISATION.

ON the afternoon of Saturday one of the warders of the House of Correction, Coldbath Fields, named Cross, was desperately wounded by a prisoner named Beaumont. The injured man was writing down the names of some of the prisoners on a slate, when, without any provocation, Beaumont rushed upon him and stabbed him deeply in the side, from which the blood flowed profusely. Mr. Corrie, the Clerkenwell magistrate, attended at the prison and took the deposition of Cross, whose state is extremely precarious.

Mr. Thomas Pettifer, a City Missionary, was on Sunday afternoon conducting the religious exercises of some pupils, when the door was burst open, and a pistol discharged at him. On going out into the street, Mr. Pettifer found William Brown, a youth sixteen years of age, hanging about, and, being told that he was the person who fired the pistol, he collared him; upon which the boy made a shrill whistle, and brought to his assistance a mob of at least a hundred desperate characters, armed with sticks, with which Mr. Pettifer was severely injured on the head and body. He was compelled to release his

hold of the boy, who escaped, but was afterwards taken into custody, and brought before the magistrate at Worship-street. He stated as an excuse that he wanted to frighten the missionary away, but was ordered to pay 5s. or be committed to the House of Correction for two months.

At the Clerkenwell police court, on Tuesday, two Irish labourers were charged with riotous conduct in the burial ground of Trinity Church, Gray's Inn-road. They had accompanied the body of a friend's child to the ground; and, being Roman Catholics, they objected to the clergyman reading the Protestant service. They therefore knocked the book out of his hands, and commenced shovelling in the earth, which led to a contest between them and the sexton and his assistants, and to their being given into custody of the police. A gentleman present explained to the magistrate that, as the law prevented a Romanist minister from officiating in a Protestant burial ground, their custom is to have the service read previous to nailing down the coffin, and after a portion of consecrated earth has been placed with the body, the friends of the deceased have no objection to burial in the parish churchyard, but they object to the reading of the Protestant service. The magistrate expressed an opinion that in such cases the service might be dispensed with; but the clergyman said that he was bound to deliver it. The case was then adjourned, in order that application might be made to the Bishop of London for the discontinuance of the Protestant service in such cases.

John and Elizabeth Rogers were charged at the Clerkenwell police-court on Tuesday, with cruelty to their child. It appeared that the child—a little girl—had been thrown on the parish four times through the harsh treatment of its parents. On Sunday evening, the landlord of the house in which the defendants lodge, sent his child down the kitchen stairs to fetch water, and, as she was passing the coal-cellar, she heard a slight knocking at the door, and a voice from within said, "Little girl, little girl, open the door; I am so cold and hungry." The child, being frightened, ran away and told her father, who went to the cellar, and found a little girl huddled in a corner, shivering, and praying for something to eat. He took care of her, and sent an officer to investigate the matter. According to the statement of a married woman who lives in the house, the child was once brought home in a very bruised state, and with a sore finger. "I washed and cleaned her," said the witness, "and put a poultice on her finger. I left her in my room, and went down stairs. As I came up I found that Mrs. Rogers had taken her from my room, and locked her up, and she was crying very much. Mrs. Rogers, however, forgot that she had not secured the second door, and the poor child put her hand out, and then I saw that the poultice was off the finger, and that it was bleeding. Although I have frequently heard the child crying, I never saw anyone beating it." The father stated that up to three o'clock on Sunday the child had been in his room, and that she had had a good dinner at one. In answer to this, the child herself (who was very ragged and dirty) stated that, after her breakfast, about the time "when the sun began to come out," her mother put her in the coal cellar; that she had no dinner—"only some bread-and-butter which the gentleman gave her"—but that she was not whipped; and that she was shut up "because a gentleman and lady came to have their likenesses done" (the father is a photographer). Mr. Birchmore, overseer of St. Pancras Union, said that about six months ago the child's arm was broken, or seriously injured, by a blow from the female prisoner, who is the mother-in-law; and the child said this was done in aiming a blow at her head with a poker, and that no one did anything for the hurt, as she was always locked in the room. An elder brother was produced for the defence, but his evidence only substantiated the charge. Eventually, it was determined that the child should be taken into the Union; and, upon the father agreeing to pay a weekly sum, the two prisoners were discharged without any punishment for their long and systematic cruelty.

ALTERING A PARISH REGISTER.

A SINGULAR case was tried on Tuesday at Oxford before Lord Campbell. The Reverend John Allen Giles, D.C.L., was charged with having married "Richard Pratt and Jane Green on the 5th of October, 1854, and feloniously made in the marriage register-book of the said parish a certain false entry respecting the particulars of the said marriage. The said entry was alleged to be false in three particulars—firstly, in stating that the marriage took place on the 3rd of October, whereas it took place on the 5th; secondly, in stating that the marriage took place by license, whereas there was no license; and, thirdly, in stating that one Charlotte Tate was present at the marriage, and signed her mark in the register-book as a witness, whereas the said Charlotte Tate was not present at the marriage, and did not sign her mark in the register."

Dr. Giles (who is a man of considerable literary

attainments) was curate of Bampton in Oxfordshire, and Jane Green was in his service. The girl was engaged to Richard Pratt, and on the 5th of October, 1854, Dr. Giles married them at the parish church at 6 o'clock in the morning. They were seen to enter the church by a farmer named Edwardes, and, from what he said, inquiries were made. On the 2nd of the month, Dr. Giles had obtained the keys of the chest where the registers of marriages were kept, and, on returning them to the parish clerk on the 5th, he told him, as a secret which was not to be repeated, that a wedding had taken place there on that morning, adding that the clerk should have a double fee if he kept the secret. Subsequently, the clerk found an entry stating that Pratt and Green had been married on the 3rd, and that Charlotte Tate (also a servant of Dr. Giles) was a witness. The affair having led to a great deal of gossip, Dr. Giles wrote to the Bishop of Oxford on the 11th of October, stating that he had in fact married the couple on the morning of the 3rd, but that, one of the entries being incomplete, they went to the church again on the morning of the 5th, and that "a gossip of the village spread the report that they went to be married." On the 24th of October after an inquiry before the magistrates had taken place, Dr. Giles wrote again to the Bishop, admitting that he had misrepresented the facts in his former letter; and stating that he had performed the marriage on the 5th, but that he did not know that it was uncanonical to marry before eight o'clock. He also acknowledged that there was no license, but said that he thought "the parties were answerable for the license." He wrote again on the 26th of October, explaining that his false statement arose out of "the dreadful prospect of felony, with fourteen years' transportation." In the same letter he solemnly averred that no "gain or advantage" to himself influenced him.

"May I plead, my lord, that when I recovered from the first pang of madness I forbade every one to speak of misrepresenting the facts, and gave an account of the whole affair to him, who stated it before the magistrates. The sole cause of my so acting was that reckless rashness to which I have ever been liable in doing the first thing that suggests itself to me. This was my impulse then. It was notorious to all my family that this young woman was going to be married to the young man. I was at the time overwhelmed with hard work from various causes. Mr. Adams being away, I had additional sermons. I had six pupils preparing for Oxford and the army, with whom I was occupied six hours a day; and thirdly, my dear child belonging to Christ Church School, had been sent home in a fever, and with his life despaired of; six nights had I sat up with my wife, watching his sufferings."

Further on, Dr. Giles thus explains his ignorance of his professional duties:—

"During the twenty-three years that I have been in orders I never practised my profession until the last few years at Bampton; and even there I have been regarded as a mere help to others, leaving to them all parochial matters. The cause of this was the necessity of being ordained in orders to hold a fellowship; and so I am bitterly expiating the crime (too common) of making holy orders a qualification for worldly advantages."

The letter concludes with an earnest appeal for mercy, the writer undertaking to perform any penance the Bishop might please to impose, to give up his literary occupations, and devote himself to the Church, and to yield the proceeds of his labours for any length of time to the poor.

Besides these facts, the evidence proved that Dr. Giles had for some time after the marriage paid Pratt 5s. a week through the medium of another person, and that subsequently he paid the passage-money to Australia of Pratt and his wife. On the Doctor being taken into custody, he said to Charlotte Tate (after having whispered something to her), "Can't you swear that Richard Pratt and Jane Green were married on Tuesday (the 3rd) between eight and nine o'clock?" The girl answered, "Yes, I can;" but the Doctor afterwards said to the police officer, "I will tell the truth. It was intended that they should be married on Tuesday, the 3rd, and myself, my son, Jane Green, and I believe, Charlotte Tate, were at the church, waiting; while waiting and expecting Richard Pratt would come, I made the entry in the register. Richard Pratt did not come, and I afterwards married them on the Thursday morning, before eight o'clock, at their request, because Pratt's master would scold him if he was away from his work."

The defence was that the Doctor was so overwhelmed with literary labour, that, through utter recklessness, he had made mistakes. Several clergymen and publishers spoke highly of his character; but the jury returned a verdict of Guilty, with a recommendation to mercy. Lord Campbell said there appeared to be no foundation for the suspicion that his desire to get Jane Green married and out of the way arose from some immoral act. He sentenced him, however, to twelve months' imprisonment but without hard labour.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WINTER. (From the Registrar-General's Report.)

The winter's cold has passed away, but its effects will appear in the registers, on which, during the week that ended on Saturday last, the deaths of 1560 persons are inscribed.

The deaths in the last seven weeks have been 10,968, and have thus exceeded the weekly averages of the year round by 2288.

If we revert to the six cold weeks, when the mean temperature was 28·4 deg., the varying influence of cold on life at different ages becomes more apparent than it was in the calculation that was based on five weeks. Thus, after deducting the average deaths at each age, an excess remains referable to the extreme cold in the numbers of 419 under the age of 20; of 200 at the age of 20-40; of 392 at the age of 40-60; of 752 at the age of 60-80; and of 205 at the age of 80 and upwards.

The cholera in six weeks of 1854 was four times as fatal as the cold in 1855, and, although its fatality increased as age advanced, it followed a different law: thus in 10,000 living at the age of 20-40, the epidemic cholera was fatal to 24; the cold to 2; in 10,000 persons of the age of 40-60, cholera was fatal to 39, cold to 9; at the age of 60-80, the proportions to the same number (10,000) living were, cholera, 64, cold, 51; at the last age (80-100) the proportions changed to cholera, 90; cold, 207.

The average deaths from pneumonia, bronchitis, and asthma in six weeks are 951; the deaths from these causes rose to 2349 in the six cold weeks. Influenza, hooping-cough, croup, and a few other diseases of the zymotic class, mortification, cancer, scrofula, apoplexy, paralysis, epilepsy, heart disease, terminated fatally in proportions above the average; so did consumption, but to a slight extent only.

The cold, therefore, brings quickly to a fatal end many chronic diseases which it does not induce.

Last week the births of 838 boys and 888 girls, in all 1726 children, were registered in London. In the corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54 the average number was 1551.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.—The success which has attended the establishment of a news-room in the Crystal Palace, has induced the directors to commence the formation of a free library (available to visitors) in connexion therewith. The artistic and scientific works already collected for the use of the company's staff will form the nucleus of the new library. The extension of the company's plan has called forth large donations from Messrs. W. and R. Chambers, and other great publishers, as well as liberal promises of support from many distinguished friends of education.

FATAL GUN ACCIDENT.—Mr. Brown, a solicitor of Walsingham, was snipe shooting in company with his nephew, a boy about fifteen years of age, when the gun of the former accidentally went off, and shot the youth, who at first was not aware of the fact. The next minute he sank into the arms of his companion, exclaiming, "Never mind, uncle—you could not help it." He died on the evening of the same day.

EARL STANHOPE expired on the 2nd of March, in his seventy-fourth year. He is succeeded in the earldom by his only son, Viscount Mahon, the well known author and literary executor of the late Sir Robert Peel.

SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.—The schooner *Statina*, Captain Williams, has been wrecked on the Laugharne Sands, not far from the spot where the Queen of the West recently met a similar fate. The captain, the mate, and two seamen were drowned; and from the testimony of a lad who survived we gather the particulars of the case. The weather was foggy, and the sea heavy; the captain and crew, immediately upon the vessel going ashore, took to the boat, which, however, capsized; and all except the boy perished. Even he was three times washed from the boat; but eventually reached the shore in safety, though greatly exhausted. Upon examination, it appears that the vessel, having struck upon sand, received no serious injuries, and that the captain and crew would have had a good chance of saving their lives had they remained.

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF AN ENGLISH STEAMER.—The *Bona* journals announce the total destruction by fire of the English steamer *Petrel*, of 320-horse power, which had arrived there a few days before from Sebastopol to load a cargo of hay, and at the same time to take in tow an Austrian vessel, also laden with hay. Both vessels had their cargoes on board, and were preparing to sail on the 14th or 15th ult.; on the 12th, at half-past six in the morning, a thick smoke was seen to issue from the *Petrel*, on perceiving which, the Inspector of Customs instantly boarded her with all the men he could muster. It is not as yet known what occasioned the fire, but it showed itself first in the hold where the coal was stowed; thence it gained the galley, and afterwards the hay, when, the flames spreading rapidly, all hope of saving the vessel was abandoned.

VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO THE WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT CHATHAM.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert, on Saturday last, proceeded to Chatham, and visited the hospital at Fort Pitt. The number of wounded in the

several wards amounted to 198, nearly the whole of which are surgical cases. The Queen next inspected therompton barracks; and finally the invalid depot at St. Mary's. At the conclusion of the inspection she returned through the barracks, where the troops were drawn up in line; and a royal salute was fired from the southern battery on her reaching the railway station.

THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH has been conferred on Major Nasmyth, in consideration of his heroic defence of Silistria, and his important services at the battles of Alma and Balaklava.

ON THE 1st inst., while the labourers were digging foundations for the houses on the crescent now building on the Round Hill Park estate at Brighton, belonging to the members of the Conservative Land Society, they discovered an urn, evidently Roman pottery. On being examined, it was found to contain boxes which had been burnt before being so deposited. The urn stands nine inches high, and about six inches broad. No lid could be found; but that such had belonged to the urn is certain, from the fact that a well-made brass hinge, in good preservation, was exposed to view. Some Roman antiquities were not long since dug out in the immediate neighbourhood. It is possible, from the character of the land, that a Roman encampment formerly existed in the locality.

THE *Daily News* American correspondent says that "things are coming to a crisis in Mexico. It is reported and believed that Santa Anna's reign is about over—that Alvarez has possession of nearly or quite all the Mexican coast on the Pacific—that Santa Anna's funds are exhausted, and that in his poverty and desperation he is resorting to the last expedient at hand, and has proposed to the American Minister to sell another portion of Mexico to the United States. But there is no probability that even General Pierce's administration would entertain the idea of purchasing another province from Mexico."

THE MURDER IN FOLEY-PLACE.—Luigi Buraneli was on Saturday brought up at Marlborough-street for further examination; but the woman whom he wounded being still in too dangerous a state to give evidence, he was remanded for a month.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Viscount Monck has been appointed to the Lordship of the Treasury, vacated by Lord Alfred Hervey. This completes the Treasury board, which is now constituted as follows:—Viscount Palmerston, First Lord; Sir George Cornewall Lewis, Viscount Monck, Viscount Duncan, and Mr. Chichester Fortescue, Junior Lords. The Right Hon. W. G. Hayter and Mr. James Wilson, Joint Secretaries. Mr. Monck retains the Clerkship of the Ordnance.—*Globe*.

RELEASE OF CARDEN.—John Carden, who was convicted last summer of an attempted abduction, has, by an act of disgraceful "grace," received a material commutation of his sentence. He is to be released from further imprisonment, on condition of remaining in a foreign land until the end of his term, and of giving security, himself in 20,000*l.*, and two sureties of 5000*l.* each, to keep the peace towards Miss Arbuthnot in particular, and her Majesty's subjects in general, for ten years. The bail bonds have been perfected, and forwarded to the executive.

WAR MEETING.—At a late meeting of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Foreign Affairs Committee, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—1. That public opinion in demanding the dismissal of the late Ministry required a change of measures as well as of men; that the war policy of the new administration appears to be in no respect an improvement upon that of the late Cabinet; that, therefore, the Palmerston Ministry can have no claim to the confidence of the people. 2. That peace in accordance with the terms known as the 'four points' would be dishonourable, illusory, and fraught with consequences dangerous to Europe; that, therefore, the appointment of a British Plenipotentiary to attend the Vienna Conference is either a ridiculous mockery, or part of a plot to commit the country to the terms of a shameful peace. 3. That this committee recommends and appeals to the British people to hold simultaneous public meetings throughout the country on the 28th of March—the anniversary of the declaration of war—for the purpose of reviewing the course of the first year's hostilities, and to make manifest to the Throne, Parliament, and Europe at large, the national will in reference to the future policy and conduct of the war; and this Committee resolves that a public meeting of the Inhabitants of Newcastle be held on the day above named for the business herein specified.

PAY OF ENSIGNS.—The pay of an ensign is only 36*s.* 9*d.* a week, and this pittance is subject to many and heavy deductions. Fifty days' pay are deducted for the mess and band expenses, and 30*s.*—that is, upwards of five days' pay—for the stamp on the commission. The recipient of this pittance is expected to keep up the appearance of a gentleman, and to enter into the society of young men of that class. Compare with this rate of pay that of some inferior grades, and it will plainly appear that there are instances in which a soldier may not be able to afford the honour of promotion to the rank of ensign, and would be infinitely wiser to reject the temptation of an apparent rise, to be compensated by a real fall in his circumstances. The pay of a corporal in the Sappers and Miners is 1*l.* 17*s.* a week, or threepence more than that of an ensign. That

of a sergeant in the same corps is 2*l.* 5*s.* a week, or 8*s.* 3*d.* more than that of an ensign. That of a colour-sergeant is 2*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* a week, and that of a sergeant-major in the Sappers and Miners is 2*l.* 16*s.* a week, or 19*s.* 3*d.* more than the pay of an ensign.—*Times*.

A CHINESE OATH.—A Chinaman (that is to say, a native, not a vendor, of China) was charged at the Thames Police Office, on Wednesday, with wounding one of his countrymen, when the following odd scene occurred:—It seems that, on Chinamen being sworn, a saucer is presented to them, which they dash upon the ground and break to pieces. The prosecutor, though seated and very weak, broke the saucer presented to him into pieces; but the second Chinaman, on receiving a saucer of the same size, which he threw with violence on the floor, could not break it. Mr. Ingham (the magistrate) told the Chinaman to try again. He did so, but with no better success; the saucer rolled along the floor unbroken, amid considerable laughter. A third and a fourth time was this repeated. The Chinamen were struck with awe, and the Europeans were greatly amused: Mr. Ingham said the saucer was a strong one, and he wished his own china was of the same strength. He directed the witness to break it on the edge of the witness-box, and he did so, and scattered the fragments on the floor.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—On Thursday, shortly before noon, a fire broke out in the premises of Mr. Rouse, in Farrington-street, by which property to a considerable amount was destroyed, and owing to which a young woman, who attempted to escape by jumping from a window, was killed. Another woman was fortunately rescued. The building was four stories high. Another fire, of a still more destructive character, and attended with the loss of four lives, occurred late on Wednesday night, in Clipstone-street, Portland-road. Several persons who lodged in the house made their escape by the staircase through the flames, and reached the street, and two women were rescued by means of the fire-escapes of the Royal Society. As soon as the flames were sufficiently subdued, an entry was made into the third floor, in the front room of which the bodies of three female lodgers were discovered, and in the back room the body of another, shockingly burnt. The origin of the fire is not known.

PEACE EFFORTS OF AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.—Immediately after the death of the Emperor Nicholas, the Austrian and Prussian Ambassadors in Paris and London, being instructed by telegraph, represented that the situation being now so completely changed, it was highly desirable not to press on the war, but to give the new Emperor of Russia time to establish himself firmly on the throne, and to encourage by conciliatory conduct the development of his presumed peaceable inclinations. I cannot say whether or not an armistice was in terms asked for; but this much is not doubtful, that the German powers recommend that the *status quo* should be preserved as nearly as possible, and deprecate any assault upon Sebastopol until the Emperor Alexander shall have had an opportunity of negotiating. Very pressing representations in this spirit were made repeatedly on Saturday morning both in Paris and London.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, March 10.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW WRIT.

A new writ was moved for the borough of Tamworth in consequence of Sir Robert Peel having accepted the office of a lord of the Admiralty.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP BILL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that he would move the second reading of this bill on Monday week.

THE EARL OF LUCAN.

Lord ELCHO, with reference to a motion of Mr. Henry Berkeley, which stood on the paper for an inquiry into the circumstances connected with the cavalry charge at Balaklava, stated that in consequence of the new matter contained in the recently published letter of Lord Raglan, the Earl of Lucan had again applied to the Commander-in-chief for a court-martial; and pending that application, he appealed to the noble member not to bring forward his motion.

Mr. BERKELEY agreed to postpone it.

BREECH-LOADING ARMS.

Mr. MAGUIRE drew the attention of the Government to a new breech-loading carbine, which he had seen tried yesterday, invented by a Mr. Sharpe, an American, and pressed the advantages which such a weapon would afford to our cavalry and artillery.

Mr. MONSELL stated that breech-loading arms were to be adopted in our cavalry forthwith, and that the authorities were only waiting for the decision of the competent inspectors as to which of several descriptions which had been submitted to them was the best.

VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.

Mr. WILLIAMS urged the offers of a number of persons to form themselves into volunteer rifle corps.

Lord PALMERSTON declared that such corps would be no use whatever even in case of invasion, and declined to encourage their formation.

The House then went into committee of supply on the Ordnance estimates.

A discussion arose on the first vote for the establishment of a camp at Aldershot, especially the item of semi-permanent barracks, which was opposed by Lord SEYMOUR and others, on the ground that such erections would neutralise the real purpose of an encampment.

The whole of the Ordnance estimates were gone through, no discussion of any consequence taking place. The remainder of the business consisted of the passing through the orders of the day, and there was nothing in them of interest.

The House adjourned soon after eleven o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

TICKET OF LEAVE CONVICTS.

Lord ST. LEONARDS drew attention to the subject of granting tickets of leave to convicts. He urged that as transportation had been abolished and penal servitude substituted for it, the system of granting licenses to convicts to go at large in certain districts had arisen. It had, however, proved to be most dangerous in its effects; and the noble lord adduced a number of instances to show that most unfortunate results had followed the discharge of a great number of persons, who had relapsed into crime from the difficulty placed in their way of obtaining honest employment, which was not a little aggravated by the system of espionage by the police, to which they were subjected. He strongly urged the necessity of some alteration in the system.

The Earl of GRANVILLE, while regretting the defective working of the system, was yet unprepared at present with any new plan with reference to the question, although the Home Office was employed in acquiring the fullest information with the hope of future action in the matter. He argued that the statements of Lord St. Leonards were in many respects exaggerated, and certainly did not correspond with the information received by the Government.

Earl GREY censured the practice of encouraging policemen to follow returned convicts and prevent their obtaining employment. He recommended the Government to send a large number of convicts to Western Australia and other available colonies.

The LORD CHANCELLOR recognised the abstract advantages of the system of transportation, which had been discontinued only in deference to the feelings of the colonists. With respect to the tickets of leave, he contended that the experiment had, on the whole, proved successful, and a large number of convicts had become honest members of society.

THE COLONIAL OFFICE.

The Earl of DERRY brought forward the subject of the present condition of the Colonial Office, and remarked upon the vacancies left in the public service by the absence from England of the Colonial Secretary. He saw no reason to anticipate the early return of Lord John Russell from Vienna, and meanwhile the state of several dependencies appeared to be becoming exceedingly critical. The business of the department had been handed over to Sir G. Grey *ad interim*, but as that right hon. gentleman was already charged with the functions of Home Secretary, it was impossible but that some of his onerous duties must be left unperformed. He inquired what steps the Government intended to take to put an end to so anomalous a state of things.

Earl GRANVILLE explained the arrangements for the discharge of the more pressing business devolving upon the Colonial Office, and eulogised the indefatigable industry of Sir G. Grey. He could, however, afford no information regarding the appointment of an Under-Secretary to the Colonies, intimating that before that post could be filled up, the bill now before the Legislature, permitting three Under-Secretaries of State to sit at one time in the House of Commons, must have become law.

Their lordships then adjourned at ten minutes past seven o'clock.

(By Continental Telegraph.)

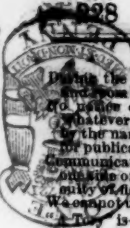
Madrid, Thursday, March 8.

A battalion of marines left Cadiz to-day for Cuba. Five thousand men will leave in May.

The army of Havannah will be augmented to 30,000 men.

Vienna, Friday.

The general hope that the conferences will have a satisfactory result has removed the bad impression which the manifesto of the Emperor Alexander had produced.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.
 Details the Session of Parliament it is often impossible to
 and room for correspondence, even the briefest.
 No notice can be taken of anonymous communications
 whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated
 by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily
 of publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.
 Communications should always be legibly written, and on
 one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the diffi-
 culty of finding space for them.
 We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.
 A Tory is a Tory.

Erratum in our Last.—In our Postscript of last week
 (Parliamentary Summary, House of Lords), for the Earl
 of Clarendon read the Earl of Clarendon.

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The Leader.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1855.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is
 nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain
 to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very
 law of its creation in eternal progress.—**DR. ARNOLD.**

THE GRANVILLE COMMITTEE DE LUNATICO ON RUSSIAN EMPERORS.

"**DELIRANT REGES!**"—Europe has had to
 pay heavily for the lunacy of the Emperor
 NICHOLAS. Science often confirms the in-
 tuitive perception of early observers. Many
 a truth is stated in very rude language by
 Hippocrates that is now made out on good
 scientific grounds. "Delirant reges," said
 the poet; and Dr. GRANVILLE reduces the
 history of the Czar's outrage upon Europe
 for the last few years to a question of patho-
 logy. No sooner is the Czar dead, than we
 have a regular clinical lecture on the heredi-
 tary malady of the Russian Imperial family,
 its causes and tendencies, by A. B. GRAN-
 VILLE, M.D., formerly physician to Viscount
 PALMERSTON, G.C.B., and for a time visit-
 ing physician to his Imperial Majesty the
 EMPEROR OF ALL THE RUSSIAS. In July,
 1853, Dr. GRANVILLE addressed a letter on
 the subject to Lord PALMERSTON, predicting
 that the Emperor would probably die in
 the July of this year; with the remark, that
 crosses and vexations might precipitate the
 event. So true was science to itself, that
 the prediction written in July, 1853, serves
 as the clinical lecture over the dead body of
 the Emperor in March, 1855. Unarrested
 by homœopathic treatment, the Emperor's
 malady took its course, and we may regard
 the disease in its great symptoms—the ex-
 travagant dictates of a pampered will, war,
 rage, congestive disease, and death. No
 "case" could be more clear.

But there is more than a family interest
 in this subject. It appears that this going
 mad and fanaticism runs in the family.
 Popular opinion has thought so, and science
 confirms the judgment. NICHOLAS only felt
 the fatal transmission of hereditary insanity;
 but least of all are the insane capable of
 self-cure. The family generally runs mad
 between the ages of forty-five and sixty.
 PAUL, at first violent and fanatical, became
 a perfect lunatic at forty-five; and was de-
 spatched at forty-seven. ALEXANDER died
 at Taganrog at forty-eight, having been for

five years capricious and wayward, knocking
 down the physician who tried to apply leeches
 to his temple, and dying of congestion of
 the brain. CONSTANTINE, eccentric and cruel,
 died at fifty-two—some said of cholera, some
 said of the assassin; but a physician of the
 Polish military hospital averred of apoplexy,
 in a passion. MICHAEL, with enlarged liver,
 deranged digestion, and determination of
 blood to the head, became irritable, violent,
 tyrannical, and lunatic, and died of apoplexy.
 The poor creatures had inherited the ten-
 dency from their parents—eccentricity, vio-
 lence, cruelty, insanity, and apoplexy. Such
 is the regular series of symptoms. It is
 humiliating to think, not only that Kings,
 but that even Emperors should be subject to
 these infirmities. But it is not emperors
 alone, or royal physicians, that bear the con-
 sequences. MICHAEL's liver becomes con-
 gested, and he raves before his army. The
 veins in CONSTANTINE's head become over-
 charged, and Poland suffers horrible oppres-
 sion. The liver and lungs of NICHOLAS
 swell with congested humours and dis-
 appointment, and Europe is lighted up with
 the flame of war. The poor Russian noble-
 man, whose family estate is reduced to in-
 solvency,—the serf who is carried off to die
 of ague or the enemy,—the merchant who is
 called upon to pay taxes out of a till emptied
 by the exclusion of commerce from his ports,
 —they might have a right to suffer, as enjoy-
 ing the privilege of being ruled by these
 morbid Czars. But it is not only the Rus-
 sian subjects that endure the consequences
 of the malady: the consequences fall also
 upon us. We pay taxes because NICHOLAS
 was bilious and labouring under the symp-
 toms of pulmonary and cerebral apoplexy,
 and "the best of the joke is"—as a respect-
 able gentleman once said in detailing the
 symptoms of which his wife died—that we
 keep in office men who conspire with our
 allies to keep this tainted family on the
 throne.

Great concessions would any Minister
 —French, English, Austrian, or German
 —have made to soothe the pampered lun-
 acy of NICHOLAS. It would really have
 "paid us" to make some sacrifice to soothe
 him. England and France might have sub-
 scribed a few millions to buy him a new
 sceptre, or any other bauble, if that could
 have assuaged his diseased temper. But
 while the nations would have been willing to
 make their sacrifice to pleasure him, he would
 not sacrifice the smallest thing to avoid the
 calamity which was fatal to him and grievous
 to us. We are speaking most literally. He
 would not sacrifice the waistband of his pan-
 taloons. It has been stated, on very probable
 authority, that NICHOLAS was advised to
 slacken the extreme tightness of dress which
 preserved to him the appearance of a "waist"
 after nature had decreed that it should begin
 to disappear. As ABERNETHY said to his
 young ladies: "Your entrails must go some-
 where; and if you will not let them be where
 they ought to be, you will push them up into
 your chest, and squeeze your lungs and heart."
 And it was so that NICHOLAS served his
 lungs and heart, out of vanity that might
 have shamed a girl, with consequences that
 have cursed empires. Upon such small
 things do imperial institutions rest. The
 button of a waistband may be the point of
 honour for potentates, and practical states-
 men, as well as tawdry heralds, keep up the
 institutions and the lunatic asylums that thus
 surmount the world!

The fact is that the Russian family is con-
 victed by its own acts and history of incapa-
 city. A monarch should be sage, intellectual,
 steadfast, clear-sighted, healthy, able to sym-
 pathise with the sound instincts of entire

nations, entirely under his own command,
 and capable of transmitting a sound con-
 stitution to his followers on the throne. In all
 these respects the Russian family is con-
 demned by the judgment of plain science.
 The Emperors of Russia are madmen; they
 cannot govern themselves, their servants,
 serfs, or empires; they cannot breed healthy
 princes for the supply of the Russian throne.
 Keep them, and that northern part of Europe
 will be supplied with mad Emperors to the
 end of the chapter. PAUL was mad, and had
 to be put out of his pain. ALEXANDER was
 mad, and afflicted Europe. CONSTANTINE
 was mad, and tortured Poland. NICHOLAS
 was mad, and has outraged the civilised
 world. ALEXANDER is the heir to those
 men. They say that he is "milder," that he
 busies himself less with war and intrigue
 than with cigars and cards. They used to
 tell us that EDWARD THE SIXTH of England
 was milder; although HOLBEIN has handed
 down to us the undeniable testimony of a
 countenance as like that of HENRY THE
 EIGHTH's as a shrunken pea is like one of full
 dimensions. TYTLER has shown that the
 dreams of tyranny and cruelty were only
 arrested in EDWARD by death. Disposition
 runs in families; the insane propensity to
 worry kingdoms runs in the family of RO-
 MANOFF. As sure as we continue ALEXANDER
 on the throne, he will give us trouble some
 day. As sure as we have been called upon
 to put a straight waistcoat upon NICHOLAS,
 we shall have to call in the keepers to ALEX-
 ANDER. Why, then, do we give him scope
 enough to do mischief, in order that we may
 prove again that which was discovered in the
 time of PAUL? If we must have a Russian
 Imperial family, at least let us have a sane
 stock. It would be far more humane to end
 the whole question at once, than to dis-
 pose of the poor Emperors individually as
 they show themselves; permitting them in
 the mean while to become a mockery and
 a jest to the world. It may be a custom
 sufficient for Russia to bowstring her PAULs
 in detail; but Europe, having more power, more
 civilisation, and more collected wisdom, ought
 to settle the question in a more general and
 a more humane way—by placing the unhappy
 family where it can do less mischief, and
 might have a chance of recovering its sanity.
 No treatment could be so shocking for the
 world as that to which the poor Czars are
 subjected. Take any man out of Hanwell,
 when he receives treatment best chosen for
 his case, and place him upon the throne of
 Russia with a sceptre in one hand and a
 sword in the other, and ask whether a more
 concentrated and sweeping crime could be
 invented, than thus to place a lunatic where
 his caprices can molest empires, and where
 the opportunities of power can pamper the
 insatiable imagination of a morbid Czar. It
 is to give lunacy a sublime excess, and to in-
 vest it with a power equalled only by that of
 the DEVIL.

WARNINGS.

It is becoming more and more useful for
 England to look at her features in the mirror
 of foreign opinion. There was a time when
 she could dispense with such coquetry. The
 homage of surrounding nations was the best
 testimony to her youth and beauty. She felt,
 too, vitality tingling through her veins; and
 self-consciousness made her ready to woo the
 world as the fair STEWART wooed the second
 CHARLES. She did not care what secrets she
 revealed. Times are now much changed. A
 twinge is felt here—a shooting pain there.
 Nothing serious, of course—a mere tempo-
 rary derangement—diet and a blue pill, a seton
 and a bandage, will set all right again. The
 cheek will appear warmer and the eye brighter

than ever. Every one, to be sure, knows that the doctor has been called in; but the worst sores are shown only when "strangers have been ordered to withdraw from the gallery." When they return neither the senses nor the imagination will be able to tell that the ceremony was required.

There is a great deal of dangerous self-deception in all this.

Eyes that look at our state less complacently than our own are beginning to discern—and flash with joy as they discern—the envious wrinkles which announce decay. Let their discernment be a warning to us. States cannot grow old with impunity, or seem to do so. Luckily the analogy of their existence with that of the human body is not perfect. What seems to be age may be disease or lassitude; at all events, in an extreme case, there is a Medea's cauldron in which youth may with certainty be found.

A very useful traditional opinion has hitherto existed abroad, that our governing classes, though they may be selfish and short-sighted in domestic affairs, have a grand continuous system of foreign policy, which each party inherits as it gets possession of Downing-street. This opinion is the basis of a certain dread of our power, and confidence in our prosperity, which makes our alliance courted even by those who hate us. No one has more friends or flatterers than the long-sighted man believed to be going up in the world by the strength of his own wisdom. He is supposed to see landmarks ahead which others cannot discern, and every one clings to his skirts for safety.

Those who, by sad experience, know England better, have always known that this profound and Machiavellic policy, supposed to be characteristic of our aristocracy, is a mere myth. Such of our governors as think it worth while to look beyond to-morrow's division, make a great effort and carry their minds forward to next year's budget. Further, so far as public affairs are concerned, all is blank to them, because all is indifferent. They have been brought up in the school of expediency—have been expressly taught that when a leak in the ship can be caulked, it is absurd to call the carpenter. Things must be kept quiet: the passengers must not be alarmed. There is no hurry: perhaps the storm will abate: there may be a port near at hand. At any rate we have time to think of the future—therefore it is proper to go to sleep.

Luckily we have a better guarantee that the policy of England shall be liberally adapted to its interests than this fabulous testament, supposed by foreigners to pass from the hands of Lord JOHN RUSSELL to Lord ABERDEEN, from Lord ABERDEEN to Lord PALMERSTON; to be utterly forgotten by those statesmen when out of office. We have an enlightened and, when it pleases, an irresistible public opinion; that is to say, a conviction founded on the reading, the experience, and the instinct of every man in this country, which will not suffer the elderly persons, who have passed their lives in the formation of the comfortable committees called Administrations, to perpetrate more than average absurdities, or to be guilty of more than ordinary caprices. We require a certain conformity to reason in the conduct of our public characters, just as we require a certain decency and gravity in the deportment of our clergymen. But even if, in return for the permission to meddle in our affairs and provide for their families, they vouchsafed to help us out of any monstrous scrapes, and did not make it a general rule to drag us into alliances with governments the principles of which we detest, there would be little ground for gratitude and wonder.

On the other hand, certain symptoms, which the country cannot fail to have perceived, begin to suggest that we must not always be content with this negative excellence. We have just lost a fine army; and may very soon lose a fine colony or two from the obstinate determination of our governors never to ward off a blow till they have felt the smart, never to apply remedies to a disease until it is past cure, never to shut the door till the steed be stolen. We believe that we shall scarcely meet with a single contradiction when we say, that no measure of general importance has been proposed by any Minister within these seven or eight years, which has not been a weapon of party warfare or an ungracious concession to public opinion. If any member of a cabinet were "young" enough to propose to his colleagues that they should take steps to ward off a danger that may present itself within a quarter of a century, he would be accused of ignorance and presumption, and quietly got rid of. The business of government is merely to keep the ship afloat with all hands at the pumps, for out of complete safety may spring mutiny. The chief cabins, it is true, must be kept dry and snug. What matter if the steerage is wet to the bone? For our parts, we are uncomfortable at being compelled to keep the sea with such commanders, under whose antiquated inexperience the slightest fall in the barometer may be fatal.

Most persons who have read the history of England for the last hundred years with attention, have become convinced that we are sowing the seeds of nations and empires over the whole surface of the globe—in other words, that we are founding colonies which must some day become independent. Indeed, there is not a single rational politician who would refuse acquiescence to this principle. It might be supposed, then, that one at least of our Ministers, before the hour of danger arrived, would have thought of establishing some machinery according to which in the fulness of time—without any fratricidal wars—our grown-up colonies might be released from dependence and allowed to shift for themselves. The idea, however, would be scouted in official circles, where men, with their eyes fixed upon precedent, think it absolutely necessary that at the end of this century or the next England must issue, breathless, bleeding and beaten, from some great Australian war—to recommence the same series of sanguinary absurdities in another direction.

It is not, perhaps, the province of a "ribald press" to suggest a national policy. Our duty—and we have certainly quite enough to do—is to abuse the Government and to point out how they always contrive to handle the greatest questions in the meanest way, to select the most incapable officials, and commit the most disastrous blunders without quite bringing us to the verge of ruin. We shall, therefore, merely hint, by way of illustration, that a country governed by men of comprehensive minds would not remain for a day in an anomalous position—with a dozen colonies or so rapidly approaching a period when the consciousness of their own strength must induce them to throw off our yoke—and with a traditional imperial policy which must compel us in that event to send out expeditions, conducted or not with Crimean incapacity, against them—humiliation and defeat appearing with certainty in the distance.

It is common to hear it said—"Oh, if a colony really shows that it is worthy and capable of independence, we shall not be so mad as to endeavour to put it down by force." But what test of worthiness and capacity should we apply? Until our armies

had been slaughtered or driven to capitulation, we—that is to say, our governors—would certainly confound a revolution with a contemptible riot. No one who knows human and Ministerial nature can doubt that. At any rate, to grant the independence of a revolted people without striking a blow—however wise and humane might be the step in itself—must of course be injurious, if not fatal, to our prestige. On the Continent—where news of the brush at Ballarat and the rising at the Cape has been received with prodigious delight—it would certainly be said that our generosity was sheer weakness and senility.

Why not make it part of the imperial law that when a colony has become sufficiently important to receive a constitution, it shall be informed that the mother-country has contemplated the possibility of its some day wishing to walk alone; that such a step, however, must not be taken in a hurry, in a moment of pique and impatience; that certain formalities must be fulfilled; that those who wish to remain in the actual state must have a complete chance of expressing and maintaining their opinion; that the presumption in such a case must always be in favour of the *status quo*; and that therefore the colony, by its representatives, will be required at three different times, by a majority of two-thirds, to express its desire of separation? Impatient agitators might be ready to adopt this machinery if the voting took place at sufficiently near intervals to be under the influence of the same passions; but every precaution should be provided against precipitation. There is no harm in making youth wait for the enjoyment of its fortune; and it would not be absurd, in so important a matter, to require that a second generation should ratify the decree of the first. There is nothing that so shocks the liberal mind as the claim of one set of men, at a particular moment, within twenty-four hours, to vote away, not only their own freedom, but that of their posterity. Even if they sell themselves to the number of eight millions, that circumstance weighs nothing in the balance: we remain equally revolted. On the other hand, it seems extravagant that some local and temporary quarrels should irrevocably separate a young community from the community that has sent it forth—fostered and protected it—especially as many of its members will continue to yearn for the old country beyond the protection of whose shadow they had no intention of advancing. Our idea, therefore—which we put forward in a moment of temporary disgust with "ribaldry"—is both conservative and liberal, bold and prudent; but because it unites these opposite qualities, we are obliged, in the interest of our reputation as sagacious journalists, to say that we lay it before our governors merely as an example to avoid.

THE NEW CZAR AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

ALEXANDER THE SECOND inherits a policy from his father. He is the hereditary representative of that conquering spirit, and of those barbarian forces with which NICHOLAS THE FIRST terrified half the civilised world. Necessity had its share in the acts of the late Emperor, and will have its share in the acts of his successor. The new sovereign must embody the genius of Russia, or give place to one who will. A yielding temper in a single man—though that man be imperially anointed, and reckon sixteen crowns of fallen kingdoms in the Kremlin—is not enough to compose a perturbed society, or to allay the general discord of Europe. The Russian Government has been described as despotism tempered by

assassination. The epigram of TALLEYRAND may not be the history of NICHOLAS; the poison which ran in PETER's veins may have been transmitted in disease to his successor; but even in Russia, absolutism is not pure autocracy. The ruler must conform to the character of his realm. A calculation of the chances of the future is reduced, therefore, to a comparison between the elements which render peace possible, or war inevitable. All that concerns the fortunes of this earth, is not yet confined to the plans of Emperors, or to the ark of their covenant, the secret cabinet of diplomacy.

The elements of this uncertainty are too varied, too powerful, and too mysterious to be balanced by any calculation. But there is one obvious probability in favour of war. A tremendous weight of material power has been stored up by successive Czars within the southern provinces of Russia, and the confines of Asia. From those wildernesses, unvisited by human culture, the devastators of Europe have sprung. Their swarming Tartar tribes have been the scourges of the West. Their pastoral life is the influence which nurses a legion of centaurs ready to pour, at any invitation, over every frontier within reach. The Cossacks, trained in St. Petersburg, hardened in loyalty, welded into masses, and dead to personal feeling, return to their waste fatherland, and decoy their former compatriots into the service. During the huge levies that have lately been frequent in Russia, hundreds of Siberian tribes have been allured to the martial yoke, chained to it by discipline, and accustomed to obey the sternest articles of war in the military code of Europe. Of such forces the desert breeds an inexhaustible supply. They have already magnified the imperial army list, and are among those new corps tramping eternally towards the citadel of Warsaw, or the passes of the Caucasus, or the avenues of the Crimea.

These multitudes, astonishing in numbers, are not insignificant in efficiency. Thousands of drill-sergeants have been despatched from Moscow and from the posts on the Don, and even within a day's march of the Chinese frontier large Russian battalions have rehearsed sorties for the defence of Sebastopol. To such preparations did the policy of NICHOLAS extend. He and his ancestors conquered deserts that these might supply troops for the conquest of fertile provinces; they seized territories not worth the cost of governing, that the rapacious and destructive races inhabiting them, with their energies concentrated and their fury curbed, might shed their cheap blood in the assault of Silistria, or in the bayonet charges of Inkerman. The process of forming such armies has been urged on for upwards of ten years; German travellers have witnessed their exercises, and heard boasts of their mission to roll like a flood over the earth. More than one Slavonian writer warns the nations of the West that they forget too early the last wave of the Asiatic inundation. The hordes which GENGHIS and TIMOUR led have transferred their allegiance to Russian Czars, and millions of them—thirsty devotees of the sword—are incorporated with the mass of the Russian Empire. Among their leaders exist the hope, armed with prophecy, that their great race will swell its limits, and succeed the Turks, as possessors of the Levant.

Here is one augury against a speedy peace, and it is well to note it. Already has a small voice exhorted Englishmen not to be misguided by irrational hostility against Russia. One eye suffices, however, to watch the morris-dance of diplomacy; there are forces which diplomacy cannot control. Could a Vienna treaty disperse to harmless occupations the fanatic levies of the dead Czar? or lay a new foundation for

the House of Austria? or appease the exasperated spirit of Hungary? or console the Lombard people? or fix the basis of tottering thrones, whether in central or eastern Europe? Humanity is too great for its governors. Even ALEXANDER THE SECOND has factions to influence him, and the vast party to which his serfs are linked, by bigotry and vanity, is that which cries for war. The Russians, in general, are like the Chinese. They know little of other nations, and despise them. We are anxious about them—they are totally indifferent about us; for they learned from NICHOLAS to believe that their strength would overwhelm the enemies of the orthodox faith, including a large proportion of mankind!

It was that sovereign's pretence that he would mediate between Europe and Asia; that he would open an intercourse between them across his borders; that he would quicken Asia with the activity of Europe, and invigorate Europe with the youthful life of Asia. Was not the style of his manifestoes a direct appeal to the Asiatic passions, and to the ignorance of his people—people who in their village schools learned that NAPOLEON BONAPARTE was a general who fought under their Majesties the Bourbon kings of France? The Czar's correspondence with the Western Governments was in one language; his official journal was habitually written in another; but for his proclamations was reserved that flutulent rhetoric, that reverberating bombast, which excited the fury of the serfs. These credulous slaves were told that "surrounding nations contemplated with awe his colossal power, and knew that his vast armies only awaited the signal for pouring like a deluge over the states and kingdoms of the world." Diction such as this animated to frenzy the very tribes of Russian subjects, which once constituted the finest soldiers of the Ottoman army.

An Eastern spirit pervades the institutions of Russia. Its monarchs have usually secured their power by Asiatic methods, and atoned for failure by Asiatic penalties. Nothing is more precarious, at present, than the authority of ALEXANDER. He depends on the grasp with which he is able to wield the moral forces of the State. For the nobles of Russia, although, like the chiefs of an Asiatic kingdom, they have little corporate influence, possess considerable weight, circle within circle, and the "emancipation of the serfs" is intended to neutralise this authority. Yet it exists, and inclines to war. Only the war-faction delighted in the late Czar's spread of policy in Asia. The waste-lands of Southern Russia are prized as depositories of a vast material organisation alone. They are valuable for military purposes or for none. From them, and from Poland, NICHOLAS raised the levies which threatened Germany, and invaded the Ottoman Empire. Blood-alliances would not have made FREDERICK-WILLIAM a viceroy of the Czar, had he not leaned on him for protection in the contingent discord of Europe. The "immortal" Cossack battalions effected the deliverance, and half-effected the subjugation of Austria; and the same breeding-ground of human flesh and blood enabled one army to be lost on the Danube, another to be decimated in Asia, and one after another to march along that short but bloody way which leads from the batteries to the charnel-pit of Sebastopol.

The East of Europe has been invested and besieged by forces from the neighbouring wastes of Asia. A sleepless vitality has been aroused; and the Russian people look to their CZAR for the triumph long-promised, prophesied, and postponed. A man's enemies may be they of his own house. Consequently, without calculating the warlike elements out of Russia, there are some within, which are potent, and perhaps irresistible.

STATE OF POPULAR FEELING.

THE occurrences of the last twelve months have aroused a spirit in the country which it will be dangerous to slight, and difficult to allay. It is more than the war spirit, and will not be terminated by peace. It would be a great mistake to suppose that cessation of hostilities, and therefore of extra taxation, would satisfy the want called forth by the pressure of taxes. During the last twelve months the people of this country have become aware that they have been embroiled with foreign enemies, and what is worse, embroiled with treacherous allies like Russia, embroiled in military failures, and therefore in an excessive and useless taxation, not by any unavoidable calamities, not by the crimes unaided of foreign kings or statesmen, but by the incapacity of their own rulers. The governing classes have proved themselves to be incompetent as well as exclusive, mischievous as well as passive. We have not King Stork with his formidable but respectable rapacity, nor have we King Log, with his perfectly senseless tranquillity, but we have a cross-grained malignant King Log who will neither govern nor be quiet. Nor does the detriment to the governing classes cease with the war, for the incapacity existed before the war began; it will continue after the war closes; and it is the exposure only that will cease, not the thing exposed. The public have become thoroughly impressed with this conviction; the flame of war has cast a light upon objects which will not be forgotten; the aristocracy is understood; and something else has also come to be understood besides the aristocracy.

We have a report upon which we can perfectly rely as to the state of feeling in the cotton manufacturing districts. We are not unacquainted with the iron district, and we have some reason to believe that the other great manufacturing regions do not differ from the condition of that of which Lancashire is the centre. We speak, however, chiefly of North Cheshire, Lancashire, and the part of Yorkshire adjacent. In that tract of country the state of the people is anything but contented, or even resigned. We have heard the feeling likened to that which prevailed in 1838. It is still more like that of 1842: probably it may not take the directly insurgent form which it assumed in that year of starvation. For the working classes have had many lessons besides those of 1848. They have learned to emigrate, and have been departing from the country at the rate of a million in three years. They have also learned to despise the aristocracy. They have learned a yet more ominous lesson; they have found that the magnates of the middle class, the great factory lords, the millocracy, who raised them to help in dragging down the exclusiveness of our aristocracy, now turn round and maintain against the working classes the same exclusion in power and in trade which they charged upon the old Tories and landed gentry. Dislike is a feeble expression for the feeling that these lessons have engendered. The glutting of the markets in America, India, and Australia, brought about by the reckless over-trading of the manufacturers, has entailed upon the manufacturing district a stoppage of trade. We have some right to charge these consequences upon the factory lords, since not only have they neglected proper steps for acting in concert to prevent any such suicidal over-trading, but many of them we know introduced the innovation of directly over-trading in Australia in order to anticipate the market, where however they had been already anticipated by local merchants, and where, therefore, they only heaped up the glut. They suffer from suspended profits; the working classes from short time, which means suspended bread. Which is the worst? When

the men of Preston talked of suspending work to enforce their own rules, they were put down by a great union of mill-owners. What remedy is there when the mill-owners suspend work to let the glut that they have made drain off? If it were mere calamity the working class would bear it tranquilly, as they have before; but it is a calamity brought about by rapacity and recklessness on the part of men who have the means of saving themselves, and leave the real pang of suffering to the working classes. These are sufficient causes for the dislike which exists, and the increased taxation brought about by the war has rendered the burden heavier. Nevertheless, the working classes are not against the war. It has been waged against an oppressor, and they are not unwilling to undergo the sacrifices entailed by the outrageous incapacity of the governing classes; but they resent the burden of a taxation which seems likely to be rendered vain by a hollow and treacherous peace.

They talk of a dissolution: it cannot come too soon for the silent people. If there were a general election, the Parliament elected now would be a War Parliament; but not a few seats would have altered occupants. There would be more men in the House impatient of a polite war, in which soldiers slay each other by thousands while emperors pass compliments; the stifled nationalities would not be forgotten; and, in short, we should hear the Commons demanding a real war, with honest officers and an honest finance.

The disposition of the English people is seen in the colonies, where they are free to speak out: in the United States, the anti-British element is kept alive by the emigration; in Canada, the people are loyal because they have their own way; we have this week rumours of a new war bursting upon a sham peace with barbarians at the Cape; and in Australia there is a working class insurrection against the foolish taxation of an incapable system of Government. Such are Englishmen when they speak out; and there are more where those come from.

THE BRUSSELS PAMPHLET.

We are condemned to live in days of universal mystification. Examples abound; let us take the latest. A pamphlet is published at Brussels "On the Conduct of the War in the East; The Crimean Expedition; Memoir addressed to the Government of H. M. the Emperor Napoleon III. By a General Officer." This pamphlet is attributed by the Belgian press to Prince NAPOLEON JÉRÔME. It reviews the operations of the Allies in Turkey, in Bulgaria, in the Crimea, from the landing at Gallipoli in April, 1854, to the battle of Inkerman on the 5th of last November. It exposes the want of unity in council and command; the recklessness on one side, the vacillation on the other; the incapacity and inconsequence on both, which have marked every stage in the progress of an expedition disastrous even in its successes, since its first blind and precipitate adoption at the command of a fatalist, at the desperate instigation of a diseased and dying castaway.

This pamphlet, quoted and commented upon in foreign journals, creates what is called a sensation. The French official organ declares that it is the work of a Russian hand, and threatens proceedings against the publisher before the Belgian tribunals. But we have not heard of any such proceedings. Prince NAPOLEON, the putative father of the pamphlet, remains silent, neither acknowledging nor denying a connexion, to which the features of the offspring lend at least an air of probability.

After some days, M. EMILE DE GIRAUDIN,

* London: Jeffs.

who had been charged by accredited rumour with a sort of oblique relation to the founding—in other words, with having produced and put in order the pamphlet—replies with enigmatic brevity to this malignant gossip by a conspicuous paragraph in his journal, *La Presse*, to the effect that "he is incapable, as his friends know, of assuming the disguise of a General Officer, even in the Carnival, and that certain positions involve certain responsibilities which are not to be accepted by halves;" an explanation which may mean nothing, or too much. Just at this time, Mr. JEFFS, the active and enterprising foreign publisher in the Burlington-arcade, is busy getting out a translation of the pamphlet, for which he has already ordered enough to exhaust an edition. Then it is, and not till then, that the *Times*, which, like other questionable potentates, is for ever ascribing its supremacy to the "national will," comes out with an article eagerly looked for by gaping worshippers, and made up as usual of an equal tissue of sophisms and suppressions, admirably adapted to the intelligence of an honest, clear-sighted, independent, and conscientious public. Now, what does the *Times* tell us about the pamphlet? Does it disprove the "attributed" authorship, or refute its damaging assertions? Nothing of the kind. After a windy and wordy flourish about the benefits of "free discussion," and a terse sentence of some ten lines or so, garnished with gentilities of expression not usually heard in polite society, our great contemporary "prefers to impute the composition to the persons on whom Prince NAPOLEON has unwisely bestowed his confidence." It then proceeds to "justify" the "strong expressions" to which we have alluded by detecting two grave errors in the first pages of the pamphlet: one, a transposition of names, Delacour for Delavallette, and vice versa—the other, an inexactitude of dates, March where it should have been February. And thereupon mark this astonishing deduction:

"Such being the inaccuracy of this pamphlet on points which are known to everybody, we leave our readers to judge of the value of the statements which rest upon its own authority."

Now it will, we believe, occur to plain understandings, that whereas "points which are known to everybody," are very often inaccurately known, statements of fact by an eyewitness are commonly received as trustworthy. The article proceeds to defend, with gratuitous verbosity, the political limitations of the war, and the necessity and advantage of the Austrian alliance—points noticed incidentally by the pamphlet, and certainly not constituting its chief value to the majority of English readers. In the course of this tirade the *Times*, however, contrives to insult "the next heir to the imperial throne, and a lieutenant-general lately in the command of a division of the French army," by describing his staff as "the rabble he had thought fit to attach to his person." But it is when the *Times* arrives at "the grand subject of attack, the Crimean expedition," that we beg our readers to observe its characteristic veracity. Speaking of the expedition, "We are told," it says, "it was resisted in the council of war held on the 10th of August, by the eloquence and profound military judgment of PRINCE NAPOLEON, supported by Admirals HAMELIN and DUNDAS," entirely omitting to mention the emphatic resistance of Lord RAGLAN himself, of General BOSQUET, and the Duke of CAMBRIDGE. And what counter-evidence does the *Times* bring against "these writers," as it somewhat loosely styles the author of the pamphlet? Absolutely nothing but assertion, qualified by "we believe," and "we have reason to doubt." But the crowning assurance is to come:—

"At any rate, enough has been said to explain whose were the timidities alluded to on a subsequent occasion by the Emperor Napoleon, and it

is not improbable that the whole pamphlet is a reply to that sarcasm."

Enough has been said! when in your garbled summary of the only significant pages of the pamphlet, you have omitted the name of the British Commander-in-Chief from the number of those who resisted the expedition. Referring to the account of the Battle of Alma in the pamphlet, the writer in the *Times* corrects the mistakes of the "General Officer" by his own assertions. That is all, and with a few more lines of vulgar violence, the article concludes.

Now we ask any reader of the pamphlet, or any reader even of the brief summary we gave of its contents last week, whether the *Times* has fairly met those points which are of vital interest to English readers of all classes and opinions. In order to put the pith of the pamphlet most clearly and decisively, we will take the liberty to ask the following questions. We believe them to be questions to which the British nation would be glad of a satisfactory reply, from whatever source they may proceed.

I. Is it true, or is it not, that the expedition to the Crimea was solely and secretly planned by LOUIS NAPOLEON, and by him imposed upon the British Cabinet, and through Marshal ST. ARNAUD upon Lord RAGLAN?

II. Is it true that Lord RAGLAN, Commander-in-Chief of the British army in the East, after expressing, in the council of war held at Varna, insuperable objections to the expedition, yielded those objections to the disordered impatience of Marshal ST. ARNAUD, and gave an affirmative vote to what Admiral HAMELIN had characterised as a "reckless adventure?"

It is really high time that we should be informed on these two points of the pamphlet, whoever be its author. For the rest, it has little value in our eyes. We have no respect for its supposed author, who, we think, would do well to remember the advice of the founder of his family, and to "wash the dirty linen at home."

But from whatever quarter evidence may come, whether from a Committee of Inquiry, from a General Officer, or even from a Russian spy, we take it for what it is worth, and when, as in this case, it happens to confirm with some authority all that has been written, all that has been whispered, and all that has been hinted, the correspondence of the *Times* itself, the tenor of private letters from the camp, the common report, and the official silence, we do not seek to divert attention from the real points at issue by insulting a personage whom nobody respects, but we fix attention on those points, and those alone, which concern the lives of our soldiers and the honour of our country. We say that if Lord RAGLAN, after formally recording his apprehension of all the difficulties and disasters which have pursued our troops ever since they encamped before Sebastopol, had the inconceivable weakness to sacrifice the lives of his soldiers, his own reputation, and his country's prestige, to the recklessness of a man in the clutches of death, who sought to expiate an infamous career, no words can express too strongly his unfitness for so responsible a command. In sterner days, such a general would not have been simply "recalled;" in ours he is made a field-marshal. We write these words with pain, for we know the high bearing, the unblemished character, the generous nature of Lord RAGLAN; we only regret that a lieutenant of WELLINGTON should have been compelled to yield his judgment to a ST. ARNAUD.

Are we to pay the penalty of an alliance with the heroes of the *Comp d'état*? Already we know it is the common jest of the intimates of the French Emperor, that the alliance of the Nephew has harmed England more than the

hostility of the Uncle. During that tremendous war against the first NAPOLEON, England gathered strength from the struggle, and towered loftier in her isolation, when unparalleled dangers were to be encountered by unexampled efforts.

In alliance with the second Empire she is losing all the power and all the prestige she won in combating the first. The day will assuredly come (we do but anticipate it) when the British people will demand an account of these things; and then the Journal of the Four Winds will not be the last to sound the trumpet of alarm.

THE CAVALRY IN THE CRIMEA AND LORD LUCAN.

THE campaign in the Crimea has hitherto afforded little scope for the use of the cavalry of either of the allied armies. The affair on the Bulganab was a skirmish of horse artillery. The Cossacks showed a great respect for Captain MAUDE's battery, and retired after a mere display of force. At the Alma the nature of the ground, and the backwardness of the Russians, gave the handful of British horsemen no opportunity for a charge. But at Balaklava, on the 25th of October, they made two charges, and they showed the enemy that his dread of the British sabre and lance was certainly well founded, by performing one of the neatest, and one of the maddest and grandest charges ever executed by the horsemen of any country. Into the details of that act of unparalleled heroism we need not enter at this time of day. In every town, in every hamlet, in every cottage, the glory and the tragedy of that fatal charge are but too well known. A few hundred British horsemen, gallantly led, rushed headlong against an army in position, knowing that they went to certain destruction; and returned, reduced by two-thirds, indeed, but rich in that glory which is the soldier's most coveted reward. They will serve, as long as England is a nation, as the most conspicuous illustrations of two of our national virtues—courage in danger, and devotion to duty.

But justice, and more than justice, gratitude to the men and officers who performed that exploit is one thing; justice to the officer who bade them perform it is another. Lord LUCAN was the author of that charge. He has been recalled; he has appealed to his peers, and to his military superiors, and he has placed himself on trial before the public, when the public, in the great interests of the moment, had almost forgotten him. His conduct, and his recall, are now matters of history; and as such we can freely discuss them. But before we came to the main question raised, the military merits of Lord LUCAN, so strikingly tested on the 25th October, it will be necessary to state why he was recalled.

It will be remembered that Lord RAGLAN, in recounting the battle of Balaklava, said that the charge of the Light Brigade took place in consequence of a "misconception of instructions" on the part of Lord LUCAN. This was a mild phrase, too mild indeed. Nevertheless it piqued Lord LUCAN, and he remonstrated with his commanding officer in a way that necessitated either his recall or the withdrawal of his remonstrance. He declined, when called upon, to withdraw the remonstrance; Lord RAGLAN forwarded a statement of the facts, and an ample vindication of himself, to the Minister of War, and Lord LUCAN was recalled. On his return home Lord LUCAN simultaneously demanded a court-martial, and stated his case in the House of Lords. The Commander-in-Chief declined to advise the Queen to grant him a court-martial, and on Tuesday he again appealed to the House of

Lords. On this occasion a despatch from Lord RAGLAN was placed in his hands, which, had he been less hasty in his proceedings, he would have seen before he mentioned the matter last week. That despatch places the whole affair before the public, and shows that Lord LUCAN should have been recalled in 1854, instead of 1855. Let us state why.

On the morning of the 25th October, the Russians, under General Liprandi, assailed and carried the redoubts erected in advance of Balaklava, and occupied by Turkish troops; and their cavalry, bounding forward, were met in full course by the Heavy Brigade, under General Scarlett, and driven back with loss; one portion of them flying from the fire of the Highlanders, whom they attempted to charge. The Infantry from the camp were rapidly coming up, and Lord RAGLAN, hoping to save the guns in the redoubts, sent an order to Lord LUCAN to advance the cavalry, and take every opportunity of recovering the heights. "They will," he added, "be supported by Infantry, who have been ordered to advance upon two fronts." But Lord LUCAN took no notice of this order! He threw no men forward. He could not see the enemy, and he made no attempt to see them. The Russians were securing their position on the hills, and removing the guns. Lord RAGLAN was naturally surprised at the inertness of the cavalry, which of course deranged his combinations. He then sent Captain NOLAN with this written order:—

"Lord Raglan wishes the cavalry to advance rapidly to the front, follow the enemy, and try to prevent the enemy carrying away the guns. Troop of Horse Artillery may accompany. French cavalry is on your left."

"Immediate."

"R. AIREY."

Let Lord LUCAN himself describe the scene that ensued on the arrival of the gallant NOLAN:—

"After carefully reading this order, I hesitated, and urged the uselessness of such an attack and the dangers attending it. The aide-de-camp, in a most authoritative tone, stated that they were Lord Raglan's orders that the cavalry should attack immediately. I asked him, 'Where, and what to do?' as neither enemy nor guns were within sight. He replied, in a most disrespectful but significant manner, pointing to the further end of the valley, 'There, my Lord, is your enemy; there are your guns.' So distinct, in my opinion, was your written instruction, and so positive and urgent were the orders delivered by the aide-de-camp, that I felt it was imperative on me to obey, and I informed Lord Cardigan that he was to advance; and to the objections he made—and in which I entirely agreed—I replied that the order was from your lordship."

Lord LUCAN had attended so little to the first order that he actually forgot its purport; for he tells us that the cavalry were drawn up to support infantry, whereas Lord RAGLAN had expressly stated that the cavalry would be supported by infantry; and, in point of fact, the Fourth Division, the Guards, and BOSQUET'S Division were on the march. But when, in a moment of passion, he ordered the Light Brigade to charge, in spite of Lord CARDIGAN'S objections, he so far forgot his duty as a commander, that he did not bring up the horse artillery; he gave no notice to the French cavalry of whose position he had been informed; he only moved up in support two regiments of the Heavy Brigade. More than this, he did not know the position and numbers of the enemy against whom he hurled the Light Brigade. The act was not that of a soldier who knows the art of war; it was that of a man in a passion, blind to everything except the gratification of his own irritated feelings. He earned his recall.

These comments may sound severe; but they are justified by the facts. It is clear that what Lord RAGLAN desired his general of cavalry to do, was to make a demonstration against the enemy. He was first ordered to advance; finding he did not move, Lord RAGLAN ordered

him to advance rapidly, and told him to "try" and prevent the enemy from carrying away the guns. Instead of advancing, and trying what he could do, he ordered an attack at all hazards! In point of fact he took his orders from the lips of Captain NOLAN, instead of acting on the written words of Lord RAGLAN; and he destroyed the Light Brigade. Had he been cool enough to understand the English language; had he known his place well enough to disregard the heated words of Captain NOLAN; had he known his duties, and felt that he could perform them; had he been all eye and ear to what was going on in front of him; in short, had he been a real general of cavalry, the Light Brigade would not have made that glorious charge, but the Russians might have been driven over the Tchernaya.

But where lies the original error? There, we answer, where lie so many other errors and faults in this campaign—in our system of training and selecting officers. Lord LUCAN, had he not been a Peer, would never have been trusted with a brigade, much less a division, of cavalry. Nobody can doubt but that he was appointed through backstairs influence; and the blame of the Balaklava charge must fall, to a great extent, upon those, whoever they are, who appointed an incapable officer to the command of the British cavalry. If we want to make an example, let an example be made of those who appointed Lord LUCAN, and of Lord LUCAN himself.

THE NEW REIGN IN RUSSIA.

In another place we have discussed the remoter and more uncontrollable elements of the war which the new Czar inherits. We have shown how much easier it was for NICHOLAS to summon his hosts than it may be for ALEXANDER to dismiss them again. We are unable to consider the question of peace or war under one aspect only, after the manner of Mr. BRIGHT; but in order to testify to that gentleman the sincere respect we entertain for the sincerity of his purpose, a respect not at all diminished by difference of opinion, and to prove to him our own desire for peace, if a peace at once prudent and honourable can be obtained, with ample indemnity for the past and ample security for the future, we invite his attention to the following summary of a communication received from a foreign correspondent, who augurs favourably for the restoration of peace from the disposition of the new Czar. We cannot say that we attach the same importance to the personal character of a man who may be but a fly on the wheel of that system which PETER THE FIRST bequeathed to his successors. But we will let our correspondent speak for himself; our readers will decide:—

"The Emperor is dead, *Vive l'Empereur!* There is nothing changed but the name, we shall be told; but it fortunately happens that the son does not always resemble his father, and it would be difficult to produce two such characters as that of Nicholas. Russia breathes again, and hopes: after the iron rule of Nicholas, Alexander II. will have an easy task. The first question to be considered is, whether this change of rulers will bring war or peace. On this point we find the *Times* and the *Morning Post* at issue. While the organ of the City expresses the desire to terminate the war, the organ of the Prime Minister is unwilling to deprive its patron of the laurels he is to win by carrying on the war with vigour. The Manifesto of Alexander II. declares that he will pursue the policy of Peter the First, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of his father. Now the home policy of Alexander and of Catherine was a liberal policy. Catherine gave the *Statut*: Alexander emancipated the serfs in the Baltic provinces, and gave a constitution to Poland. With regard to foreign policy, we must not forget that if the European Powers had lost all faith in the word of Nicholas, the son has not as yet in any degree compromised his sincerity. Material guarantees are less imperative against a sovereign whose honour has not incurred suspicion. And as, on the other hand, we know that the pre-

sent Emperor disapproved the invasion of Turkey, it needs but a very little good will on the part of your Cabinet to restore to Europe the blessings of peace. It would be imprudent just at this moment to rouse the serfs already agitated by successive levies; and when the Czar declares that he shall pursue the policy of his father, we have yet to learn whether it is the policy of the Four Points, or the call of the population to arms. The acquaintance I have with political opinion in Russia (only ignorance imagines that no such opinion exists) authorises me to say that the new Emperor will accept an honourable peace if it is offered him, but if it is refused, he will pursue the war with more vigour than ever. On this point I am at issue with the *Times*, and I will state my reasons. The *Times* states that the late Czar had created means of resistance, and could demand of his soldiers a devotion to which his successor has no claim. That is a purely gratuitous supposition. At the beginning of a reign there is an enthusiasm which never accompanies the end. The malcontents of the last reign will rejoin the standards, and young Russia will gather round Alexander II., whose goodness of heart promises a reign of justice, of mercy, perhaps even of liberty. I would declare solemnly to Lord John Russell that if he is charged to demand the conversion of Sebastopol into a commercial port, *peace is impossible* for the young Emperor can never accept it on those terms. The great difficulty for the new sovereign at the present moment is the question of maintaining or countermanding the arming of the militia. In the first place it should be known that this measure cannot possibly raise more than 80,000 inefficient soldiers. In 1812, those warriors dragged from the plough were absolutely useless. If the *corps francs*, commanded by men like Davidoff, attained some distinction, they were special corps; the present levies would create nothing but vexation, and furnish subordinate functionaries with the means of extorting the price of exemptions. It is to be hoped that the young Emperor will listen to the advice of Prince Paskiewitch and the whole noblesse, and abandon the idea of arming the militia, especially now when the hostility of Austria and of Prussia is less probable than ever. Let me say a few words about the late and the present emperor. History will place Nicholas among the sovereigns who have been most fatal to Russia and to Europe. If he displayed a certain force of character it was because an enormous empire obeyed him blindly, as it will obey his successors. But when it is said that Nicholas developed the resources of Russia, it is not considered that Russia was an almost virgin soil. Intellectually and morally, Russia has receded under Nicholas from the position assigned to her by Alexander I., whom the Emperor of Austria used to call a Jacobin, and who was the crowned advocate of universal peace, even when he was dragged into the most terrible of wars by Napoleon I. Alexander II. is commonly reported to resemble his uncle, Alexander I. 'Our angel is in heaven,' wrote the Empress Elizabeth at the death of her husband. 'Our angel is on the throne,' are the words of a Russian friend writing to me on the accession of Alexander II. In him is the same goodness of heart, the same yearning after a liberal policy, and it is added, the same weakness. But this weakness, after the fall of Nicholas, who blindly crushed every obstacle in his path, Russia will bless. If Alexander II. forgets the teachings of his father, I predict for him a prosperous and happy reign, for Russia has need of repose. All the energy expended upon the army has resulted in the reverses of Silistria, Alma, and Inkerman. Let us hope that a policy of peace will bring happier results. Nicholas used to confess that his education had been deficient; not so his son's. Alexander II. has been educated under the care of one of the best heads and hearts in Russia—the poet Joukoffsky—and a little poetry in the sombre and sullen Government of Russia will be a real blessing.

'The wife of the new Emperor, the Princess of Darmstadt, whom he married for love, is a superior woman, simple in manners, and brought up in those traditions of duty and of virtue which belong to the petty courts of Germany. Among the intimates of the new sovereign, Jean Tolstoi is one of the most distinguished noblemen in Russia, and M. de Labenski is a person of the highest capacity. Poland herself may welcome the new Czar, for he has none of the prejudices of his father against that valiant nation. In 1815, Nicholas said to his brother Michael, who was talking in the Polish language, 'What makes you talk that cursed tongue?' When General Krainski asked the Grand Duke now on the throne whether he spoke Polish, 'I have quite forgotten it,' the Prince replied, in Polish, with perfect grace. 'May your Imperial Highness,' rejoined the General, 'apply those words some day to all the grievances that divide the two peoples.' The rivalry that existed between Alexander and Constantine has shrunk to the proportions it should never have exceeded—a child's quarrel; or rather, it has com-

pletely disappeared. The German party of the new Emperor will be the party of progress and of civilisation, and while it contains no elements hostile to the national party, it will have no reason to fear it."

TAMPERING WITH FAITH.

A CLERGYMAN of the Church of England, who, for a long time evinced opinions extremely inconsistent with the fundamental dogmas of that Church, has been detected in tampering with the technical arrangements of a marriage license, and sentenced to a severe punishment. He is effectually disqualified for the offices of the Church. He might previously have committed yet more serious ecclesiastical offences. He might have thrown forth views of Hebraical profundities which could not be maintained simultaneously with the official Church doctrine; but it was difficult to grapple with a profound scholar on the subject of nonconforming views. Contests on the subject of prevenient and subvenient grace are baffling enough. To place in the dock a sturdy champion whose quiver was filled with weapons from the store-house of real knowledge, would have been a formidable opening. Dr. GILES tripped himself up with a marriage license, and then his Bishop pounces upon him, and the penal court condemns him. He appealed to the Bishop of Oxford for a merciful intervention to procure the withdrawing of the Chancellor's information against him; but the Bishop would not receive this hint at an "enforcement of our Saviour's precept to forgive injuries." Dr. GILES is condemned and sentenced to a twelvemonth's imprisonment without hard labour—something more lenient than a sentence of death. The Church must have her victims—if they can only be caught at a disadvantage.

Dr. GILES's defence established upon evidence some facts upon which we have already insisted. The case is "exceptional" in the recklessness to which he confesses, and in the candour which he shows. He states exactly how he came into his present position, and into the mood of mind that led him there. He is by nature audacious, he is not inclined to clerical pursuits and restraints, but his father forced him into the Church. So far his case is not singular. There is many a man who ought to be in the army or navy, following literature or commerce, engaging in some eager pursuit, possibly of a rough kind, who is tamed, chained, and spirit-broken in order that he may conform to the rules of the profession, because "there is a living in the family." We know such men. They do not fly out into overt indiscretions like Dr. GILES. They conform. Many of them acquire a peculiar disbelief, by the "familiarity" which "breeds contempt" in sceptical minds; but they pretend that they believe in order that they may draw the tithes. Dr. GILES, therefore, is only more ingenuous than such persons.

It is the natural effect of compulsory belief, that it makes infidelity to conscience respectable. Put penalties on disbelief, and you may exact the most ridiculous pretence, until at last hypocrisy become superstition, and men believe against all reason.

In this country we do not maintain the paraphernalia of the Church of England only—we have other institutions. It is decreed by the wisdom of our law that oaths shall be administered with religious tests, in order that the oaths may be efficacious; for here, conformity does not attain its own end. Oaths must be administered in the faith of the testator. Chinamen are sometimes witnesses in our courts; and in order to secure the due sway of superstition over the Chinese mind, our public officers maintain Chinese religious institutions. We are not saying this upon presumption; the fact was

illustrated at the Thames-police this week. Two Chinese men were defendant and prosecutor; the latter having been wounded they had to depose on oath, and in conformity with the faith of their country the solemn part of the oath-taking consists in the breaking of a china saucer. The saucers were produced. Prosecutor dashed his to pieces with enthusiasm; the defendant threw his upon the floor several times without breaking it. He was, perhaps, at first following the trick which Irish prisoners often play when they pretend to place their hand upon the cross, outside the New Testament, but held it at a short distance, that the solemn part of the oath may not fix the perjury upon their souls; Protestant witnesses effect the same evasion by kissing their thumbs. The unbroken state of the saucer appeared to visit the Chinese soul with awe. Who could not see in it "a direct interposition of Providence?" In the course of the case, came out the fact we have already stated—that the public officers of the State in this country maintain the religious institutions of China. DENNY, the housekeeper of the Thames police-court, keeps on hand two dozen saucers for the administration of Chinese oaths. In short, the Chinese faith is, to a certain extent, amongst the established religions of this country; and that faith the State respects, though the love of truth, which makes men avow their doubts, is suppressed by punishment.

Open Council.

(IN THIS DEPARTMENT, AS ALL OPINIONS, HOWEVER EXTREME, ARE ALLOWED AN EXPRESSION, THE EDITOR NECESSARILY HOLDS HIMSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR NONE.)

There is no learned man but will confess he hath much profited by reading controversies, his senses awakened, and his judgment sharpened. If, then, it be profitable for him to read, why should it not, at least, be tolerable for his adversary to write.—MILTON.

THE GAME LAWS.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—The late game conviction at Berkeley is an instance of the not unfrequent legal and moral anomaly, a wrong without a remedy. The conviction will probably be supported, though the balance in its favour is not more than a feather weight; but even if it be quashed, the sufferer will have sustained the penalty. The maxim, *cujus est solum, &c.*, is not without ambiguity. If a fruit-tree stretch across a boundary, and fruit fall on another's ground, the fruit will belong to the owner of the ground. But it is not clear that he might cut off the overhanging bough. The party entitled to the game in this instance might have shot the bird on Mr. Cox's tree, but had the bird been wounded on Mr. Cox's land, and he had followed it into his neighbour's field, he could not have been liable for trespass, as he had express permission to pick up game so fallen. This breach of forest law is very microscopic; but, as it is just appreciable, the more urgent concern is with the punishment. This is tangible enough; suitable to a wanton trespass or an unqualified poaching, but here so far exceeding the offence as to raise suspicion of some predetermination against the sufferer. The plaintiff, the evidence, the magistrates, and the peasant, all appear to have belonged to Earl Fitzhardinge. LIBER.

NATURAL HISTORY.—From nature man derives everything. The spider taught him weaving; the fish furnished the idea of the boat; the swan the pleasing model of the sail; the palm led to the erection of the pillar; the skin of brutes gave us the idea of dress; and the cocoa-nut led to the beer-jug. The tax on wood alone appears to me to be a purely human invention.

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE.—The author demands his entrance money back. He's not been able to find a place.

NATURAL MISTAKE.—An agricultural gentleman, in reading a fashionable newspaper, exploded in a guffaw. On being entreated to communicate the cause of his mirth, he pointed to the description of a marriage in high life, in which the reporter stated—"We have been favoured with a peep at the bride's trousseau." "To ha' 'em made aforehand," the farmer said, "showed pretty well as how the lady had made up her mind to wear 'em arterwards."

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

DID any of our readers who were informed last week that in the new number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* there was an article by M. GUIZOT on "*L'Amour dans le Mariage*"—did any, we say, look with morbid impatience for a SHANDEAN chapter on family clocks, or a BALZACIAN chapter on Four-posters, or a GEORGE SANDIAN chapter on the incompatibilities, or an ALPHONSE KARRIAN chapter on that universal text "*Les Maris me font toujours rire*"? If there be among our readers any mind so ill-regulated as to have conceived one or other of these shocking inconsistencies in connexion with the name of Guizot, we can only rejoice in the disappointment. We may be pardoned for having kept the secret. The article that bears so captivating a title, and so austere a signature, is one of the most familiar episodes of our own English history, which has been often related, and in various forms, but never we think so nobly as now, by M. GUIZOT. The first few lines of the essay, we confess, seemed unpromising; the remark that "history is full of romance" struck us as somewhat trite, but at the second page we were charmed and attentive; the hand of the master was visible.

"In studying the history of England," writes M. GUIZOT, "I have met with two stories more interesting to my mind than any novel: a king seeking to marry for love; and love in the home of a liberal and Christian nobleman. Here is domestic life, with its most charming and most painful secrets, presented by personages of the highest rank, moving in the midst of the greatest events of public life. Some day or other I may perhaps relate the love-suit of the king; for my present picture I select the domestic history of the nobleman."

The "Christian and liberal nobleman" is the Lord WILLIAM RUSSELL of 1683, and the "love in marriage" is the "strength and beauty of woman's devotion," never more beautifully, more pathetically personified than in RACHEL WROTCHESLEY. M. GUIZOT relates with admirable feeling and grace the earlier years of this noble lady: her marriage at seventeen years of age with Lord VAUGHAN, whom she had scarcely seen, "by an arrangement between the families;" "one of those unions," as she said herself, "rather accepted than chosen;" the serious and gentle piety, the perfect kindness of heart, the affectionate simplicity with which she discharged the duties of her new estate, beloved, respected, and honoured by all: the dignity and seclusion of her widowhood. He then introduces a young man some three years younger than Lady VAUGHAN, WILLIAM RUSSELL, second son of the Earl of BEDFORD, who was just entering upon the world of public life, of a naturally pious and affectionate disposition, even amongst the frivolities of youth. M. GUIZOT gives a letter from this young man to his father, "instinct with simplicity and goodness." "Where the heart is so sincere, respectful, and tender, the life cannot long be disorderly." "Lady VAUGHAN," he continues, "had probably some share in the restoration of moral harmony in the noble young man to whom she was to give herself. Of all human influences, that of a virtuous love is at once the most powerful and the most sweet. WILLIAM RUSSELL was a younger son without fortune or title; Lady VAUGHAN was a wealthy heiress, and a widow without issue. The lover was timid and reserved, but there was too deep a native sympathy between them to permit conventional hesitations to keep them separate." In 1670 they were married, and here let us request M. GUIZOT to speak. "This world has no spectacle more charming than that of a pure and happy passion. Passion, that free and sincere explosion of the desires and secret energies of our inner nature, has for us so great an attraction that we take infinite pleasure in contemplating it even when it presents itself charged with guilty errors, with troubles, disappointments, sorrows; but the passion that displays itself in harmony with the conscience, and overflows the soul with joy without disturbing its beauty and its peace; that is the full expansion of our nature, the satisfaction of our most human and most divine aspirations; that is Paradise regained. The union of RACHEL WROTCHESLEY and of WILLIAM RUSSELL presents this rare and perfect character." M. GUIZOT dwells with almost the emphasis of personal affection upon the passionate tenderness, the confiding and serene piety of the Lady RACHEL's letters to her husband, upon all of which the soul, undimmed by the satiety, of love, sheds a steady and tranquil light. In one of these letters, written about eleven years before her husband's execution, there is the shadow of a presentiment, such as *Othello* felt when he clasped *Desdemona* in his arms at Cyprus. But this presentiment is expressed in a few touching words of unuttering resignation and thankfulness to the Beneficence that had granted past felicities. "By a coincidence it is impossible to remark without emotion," continues M. GUIZOT, "it was almost at the same period that Lord RUSSELL married Lady VAUGHAN, and became a leader of the national party against the Court. Domestic happiness and patriotic passion began for him at the same time." Lady RUSSELL shared the faith, the feelings, and the opinions of her husband; but "more far-sighted and less prejudiced," she more than once warned him with a firm and tender frankness against the consequences of his extreme resistance to the Court.

We cannot here accompany M. GUIZOT in his brief but powerful sketch of the historical crisis, which is, as it were, the framework of the episode. M. GUIZOT's historical manner is celebrated for its large and brilliant generalisations: here it is in the opposite qualities of the most finished and delicate portraiture that we recognise the master-hand. The Lady RACHEL's constancy, and her husband's courage, are ever in the foreground of the picture: not a touch is wanting, and every touch is equally rapid and sure. There is an incidental sketch of SHAFTESBURY, singularly lifelike.

We have said enough to indicate the manner and the subject of this remarkable paper. Seldom, it appears to us, has M. GUIZOT written with a more sustained and chastened dignity, with more elevation of tone and serenity of thought. While M. Cousin seeks "the true, the beautiful, and the good," among the fair penitents of the seventeenth century in France, M. GUIZOT finds repose in the contemplation of the purest homes and the bravest hearts of England, as they loved, and suffered, and died, about the time when Madame DE LONGUEVILLE and Madame DE SABLÉ trembled and repented. The fallen French statesman writes lovingly and reverently the story of the ancestor of the English Minister. The house of Bedford has seldom had better reason to be proud of the name of RUSSELL.

We have little space to speak of the second article of the present *Revue* as it deserves. The subject is *The Philosophy of the History of France*, and the writer is M. EDGAR QUINET, an exile. EDGAR QUINET's name is illustrious in the ranks of that liberal party to which all the genius, learning, and science of France belong, and he is one of the long list of the proscribed who form the absent *cortège* of the second Empire. This article is in many respects the most suggestive we remember to have read for many a year. Exile has this advantage: it removes the films of prejudice and passion from the political vision; it restores to the thinker the faculty of self-examination, of tracing the paths of past aberrations with almost the decision of posterity. In his present essay, the distinguished Professor seems to have probed to the core the moral malady of France, with unsparring severity he tears away the fallacy of that historical fatalism which in all the French writers for the last twenty years has pursued the phantom of "equality" at the expense of liberty, and apologised for every atrocity of despotism in the darkest times, as if despots and dictators were the true forerunners and pioneers of free institutions. A constitutional Government was to be the happy solution of all those providential tyrannies; but now that the constitutional régime has disappeared, mark the consequences of a doctrine preached in various forms by MM. THIERRY, MICHELET, BUCHEZ, and the rest! This essay deserves to be read and studied again and again by all who desire to sound the abysses of the present dishonour of France. It is not less remarkable for the boldness with which it condemns the *fetichism* which has been ready to sacrifice the freedom, dignity, and independence of the citizen to that devouring idol the "unity," the "glory," the "frontiers" of the State. When better days return M. QUINET may claim a civic crown. He has deserved well of his country in writing this essay.

The French Academy has made another political demonstration in electing M. DE BROGLIE last week. Our readers may remember the high position of the Duc DE BROGLIE under the last régime. May may not remember that he is the son of the DE BROGLIE who fell a victim to the Revolution, and whose last words to his son were, "*Forget the guillotine and be faithful to the Revolution*." When the present *Revue* edited the *Revue Libérale* under the Restoration, the motto of the review was his father's last words, to which were added the following:—"Posterity will say if I have kept my word." We will not anticipate the verdict of posterity. M. DE BROGLIE has no remarkable literary titles to a seat in the Academy, but his name and character give weight and significance to the choice. His son is known as a frequent contributor to the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. The other election fell upon M. ERNEST LEGOUVE, the dramatic author; a man universally esteemed in the world of literature, and in society. M. LEGOUVE has celebrated his election into the Academy by a timely victory over Mademoiselle RACHEL and M. FOLLE. Mademoiselle RACHEL has been condemned by the Imperial Court of Appeal to pay a fine of 300 francs, by way of damages, for refusal to appear in M. LEGOUVE's tragedy of *Médée*, after accepting the part. M. LEGOUVE has divided the 300 francs between the Society of Dramatic Authors, and the Society *des gens de lettres*.

The second volume of M. VILLEMAM'S *Souvenirs Contemporains* is on the eve of publication. It contains the history of the Hundred Days.

THE SCIENCE OF HEALTH.

The Mode of Communication of Cholera. By J. SNOW, M.D. *Cholera Food and its Adulterations.* Being Records of the Results of Some Thousands of Original Microscopical and Chemical Analyses of the Solids and Fluids consumed by all Classes of the Public. By A. H. HASSALL, M.D., Chief Analyst of the Lancet Sanitary Commission. Illustrated by Engravings Showing the Microscopic Structures of Articles of Food, and the Substances used for Adulteration. Longmans and Co. Blackwood and Sons.

The Chemistry of Common Life. By J. F. W. JOHNSTON, M.A., F.R.S., &c. Vol. II.

HEALTH and happiness—the twin blessings of humanity, the best wish of our best friends—how we trifle with them both! how we waste them, just as if we could find each fresh and young every day like the sunlight! Life is, in fact, a continuous decay from beginning to end—a fire lighted to burn so long as the fireplace holds together—while we treat it as though we

had forestalled the great desideratum—immortality; hence the profound truth of the line, "All men think all men mortal but themselves." If you wanted an example of human perverseness and fatal infatuation, a better one could scarcely be found than in the way we have been going on heaping up corruption in our most crowded streets, under our windows, even under the very hearths of our comfortable-looking firesides. If we only followed our natural instincts we should avoid many of these abominations; but what with being taught to believe a certain amount of dirt and suffering inseparable from an orthodox existence, and what with the notion that having escaped hitherto we shall escape altogether, people go on cultivating disease, sowing the seeds of pestilence, after the most desperate and deadly method. Factories and workrooms are still crowded and overheated with steam and the noxious fumes of gas and human exhalations—thousands of people still live in cellars and mines—thousands drink water springing from sources the most foul and destructive—real poison fountains, and millions prefer to consume themselves before the slow fire of gin and tobacco. The Director of the Public Health has by no means got it all his own way; the corporations fight most doggedly for their cesspools and ditch water, and the more effort made to improve the health of the million, the more we observe a want of sympathy. The public indifferently has the merit of subscribing to the splendid incomes of our great physicians, collectively it does not understand being taxed to preserve its salubrity. It has taken two sweeping attacks of cholera to make us feel that there was such a consideration as public health. Legislation fails, but pestilence, like its fellow demon war, proves the very best of purifiers.

The state of things revealed by Dr. Snow's researches is so incredibly filthy, so instinctively and inherently fatal, that at first sight one refuses to think it possible that those who build dwelling-houses could be so ignorant, and the inhabitants so reckless. His theory is, and the facts he brings forward in support of it seem to us most important, that cholera is propagated by actually swallowing the diseased particles thrown off by the unfortunate victims; that the water we are supplied with in our cities is the grand medium by which the dreadful impregnation is carried on. His researches show how in a row of houses, one case having occurred, the inhabitants of the adjoining houses have been attacked, each house being supplied with water from the same source, and the reservoirs of all being actually the receptacles of the drainage from overflowing cesspools.

He mentions one instance in which a washerwoman, living in a row of this kind, having discovered that the water was not pure enough for her business, used to send some distance to get good water; and as she drank this, she was the only person who escaped. The investigations Dr. Snow made into the causes of the terrible onslaught in the Golden-square district, prove without a doubt that the water of the pump in Broad-street was the source of the pestilence. A map of death shows where the centre of the attack was, and here stands the fatal pump. In this map a black mark stands for each death in every house, and immediately around this pump we can count a crowd of sixty coffin symbols. Two remarkable cases are also related—one that of a gentleman, who came from a distance and dined in Wardour-street, and drinking this poisonous water, died; the other, of a lady living at Islington with her niece, who actually sent for supplies of this water, fancying it was better than any in the neighbourhood: they both fell victims to the disease.

Dr. Snow's argument is strengthened by the fact that in the St. James's Workhouse, situated in the immediate neighbourhood of the pump, and surrounded by houses in which persons died constantly of the disease, there were only 5 who died out of 535 inmates. Now the workhouse was supplied by the Grand-Junction water and a pump-well of its own, and the inmates were not allowed to send anywhere else for water. A coffee-house keeper who dealt in this water counted nine of her customers who had died. And yet this pump positively rejoiced in the reputation of remarkable purity; fortunately it was found out at last, and through Dr. Snow's appeal to the parish authorities this terrible engine was deprived of its handle, very much to the disgust of the small dealers in effervescing drinks and sherbet, who relied upon it for their popular luxuries. Within a circle of 250 yards of this precious pump upwards of 300 deaths occurred in ten days, a mortality equal to that of the plague; and had not the inhabitants fled, the destruction would have been greater, for in less than a week the streets were deserted.

Dr. Snow traces the outbreak of cholera in the Black Sea fleet to the use of water impregnated with the seeds of disease; he quotes a letter from a medical officer, who says he saw the soldiers who were marching from a focus of cholera washing themselves in a stream from which most of the English and French ships obtained their water. This was on the 7th and 8th of August, on the 9th and 10th the disease suddenly burst out with the greatest virulence amongst the crews. The Montebello and Ville de Paris had upwards of 200 men attacked in one night, 40 lay dead in the morning. The Britannia lost 50 men in twenty hours' time, and soon 30 more, while 200 were suffering from the disease; the ship was, in fact, completely disabled, and had no crew left to sail her. The same officer relates that 5000 men of the French army perished in a few days at Baltschik, and the calamity was attributed to the poisoning of the wells by throwing in putrid carcasses. The following example of the reckless way in which people will drink bad water we find in Dr. Hassall's book as evidence from a surgeon reporting cholera in Jacob's Island, Bermondsey:—"In the greater number of houses there was no water to drink but that from the tidal ditches until about July, the water in the ditches becoming in some parts absolutely putrid, green, thick, and slimy. I know some clusters of houses where they had only such water to drink, and I know that out of five of these houses the inmates of four were affected with cholera."

Impressed with all these facts bearing upon the same point, Dr. Snow, after referring to the Registrar-General's report of the deaths, obtained the names and addresses of those who died of cholera last summer and autumn in certain districts supplied with water by two companies; the one giving water obtained at Thames Ditton, the other water from the Thames at Battersea. The result shows that in the four weeks from the 8th of July to the 3th of August there were 334 deaths. Of these, 286 were in houses

supplied with water from Battersea by the Southwark and Vauxhall Company; in 14 cases with water from Thames Ditton by the Lambeth Company; in 22 cases the water used was taken by dipping a pail into the Thames; in 4 houses it was selected from a ditch; in 4 others from a pump-well; the remaining 4 could not be ascertained.

The other water company, deriving its supply from the Thames (the Chelsea), took the very obvious precaution of filtering it, and consequently its victims were more rare. Dr. Snow's book contains a map, coloured to show the districts supplied with the contaminated water, and any one who is acquainted with the locality of the ravages of cholera must at once pronounce this map a cholera map. He says, in reference to the results we have above stated: "It is obvious that no experiment could have been devised which would more thoroughly test the effect of water supply on the progress of cholera than this, which circumstances placed ready-made before the observer. The experiments, too, were on the grandest scale. No fewer than 300,000 people of both sexes, of every age and occupation, and of every rank and station, from gentlefolks down to the very poor man, were divided into two groups, without their choice, and in most cases without their knowledge—one group being supplied with water containing the sewage of London, and amongst it whatever might have come from the cholera patients; the other group having water quite free from such impurity. . . . I resolved to spare no exertions which might be necessary to ascertain the exact effect of the water on the progress of the epidemic in the places where all the circumstances were so happily adapted for the inquiry. I had no reason to doubt the correctness of the conclusion I had drawn from the great number of facts already in my possession, but I felt that the circumstance of the cholera-poison passing down the sewers into a great river, and being distributed through miles of pipes, and yet producing its specific effects, was a fact of so startling a nature, and of so vast importance to the community, that it could not be too rigidly examined, nor established on too firm a basis." The main result we have stated, but there remains another, taken from the authentic returns, viz., that of the 563 deaths from cholera in the whole metropolis, in the four weeks ending August 5, more than half were customers of the Southwark and Vauxhall Company, and the rest were mariners and persons employed about the shipping, who derive their water from the river.

Analysis of those two waters showed that the purer one contained only 0.95 grains of chloride of sodium (common salt), while the other had 37.9 grains of chloride of sodium in the gallon. Turning to Dr. Hassall's book, we see in his admirable drawings what horrible monsters the microscope drags to light from those much vaunted crystal streams of the opulent companies. Your glass of pure water appears a perfect pandemonium of fearful forms, all of them apparently warriors, armed at all points with every kind of weapon of offence and defence, most of them clothed in spiked armour; to the unscientific eye they look like an unhappy family of shrimps, spiders, and caterpillars. And yet these companies complain of the "over-sensitiveness of the public caused by the late epidemic," and say "they see no reason to believe that water from whatever source procured would prove acceptable." Happily for this poor over-sensitive public, the other of the two companies has already established a purer source, and a complete system of filtration and deposition. However, the only safety from such causes of disease in the community is to be sought in a regularly organised system of inspection, which, perhaps, after the next campaign of cholera, we may hope to hear mentioned in "the House."

Dr. Hassall goes at length into detailed experiments of the changes produced in water by keeping it in leaden cisterns and pipes, the most important fact deducible from which is that chloride of sodium, a salt which by Dr. Snow's observations is said to be most prevalent in the bad water, acts most readily upon the lead, and produces a poisonous water. Another very important analytical or chemical fact elicited by Dr. Hassall's researches is, that Thames water, abounding as it does in animal organic matter, has a tendency to produce fungi. Now it is generally admitted that the animalcules are soon killed in the stomach, but it is not so proved with regard to the fungi; these parasites, it seems, may possibly be the cause of the most destructive disease even to man. Upon this point the experiments related by Dr. Hassall are very interesting:—

Many fruits, such as apples, pears, and peaches, and several vegetables, as the lettuce, vegetable marrow, potato haulm, &c., were inoculated with the sporules (seeds) of fungi; the result was that they all speedily became diseased, and, in a few days, many of them entirely disintegrated and destroyed. It is to be observed that these experiments were made on healthy and growing fruits and vegetables, the former still on the trees, the latter growing in the earth. In the softer fruits, as the peach and some apples and pears, the effects of the inoculation became visible in less than twenty-four hours; a dark spot like that of mortification first appearing, and this gradually extending in all directions, until the fruit became completely disorganised. There are now also many recorded cases in which fungi have attacked the living animal organism, including even man himself. The disease "muscicardine," which occurs in the silk-worm, and many other animals of the same class, as well as the peculiar softening of the tails of fish confined in glass globes, is attributable to the growth within the tissue of the animal of the ramifying filaments of fungi. Again, fungi have been noticed growing on the ulcerated surfaces of the human intestines in cases of fever, they have likewise been observed in certain affections of the skin, and in discharges from the stomach, bowels, bladder, and vagina.

In connexion with this fungus theory we should remember that fungi have a most extraordinary and rapid power of reproduction, as for example in the formation of yeast, which is the growth of fungus, and we find Dr. Snow saying:—

It would seem that the cholera poison, when reproduced in sufficient quantity, acts as an irritant on the surfaces of the stomach and bowels; or, what is still more probable, it withdraws fluid from the blood circulating in the capillaries by a power analogous to that by which the epithelial cells of the various organs abstract the different secretions in the healthy body; for the morbid matter of cholera having the property of reproducing its own kind, must necessarily have some sort of structure, most likely that of a cell. It is no objection to this view that the structure of the poison cannot be recognised by the microscope, for the matter of smallpox and of chancre can only be recognised by their effects, and not by their physical properties.

Intimately connected with the subject of water supply comes that of

cleanliness. Personal cleanliness and clean food are highly important elements of health. Dr. Snow considers that the cholera poison is actually taken in with the food, more especially amongst the poor, who live in one room only, containing their beds and their food, and with whom washing is seldom thought of. He reminds us that amongst the better provided classes the cases of cholera were always isolated, in consequence of their habits being cleaner and the food being kept and prepared in a separate apartment; all of which seems to us extremely rational, and of the greatest practical importance. From Mr. Stafford's account, which is the most accurate we have yet obtained, this neglect of cleanliness has been a terrible cause of the spread of dysentery at Scutari. In obviating such like sources of disease, the new model lodging-houses, and the baths and washhouses, must have a most beneficial effect upon the sanitary and social condition of our large cities. We are disposed to put great faith in their influence, and even to reverse the adage—"cleanliness is next to godliness." Certainly a clean man is a most prepossessing individual; even your professional mendicant exercises a high moral tone over us—becomes an irresistible object of our charity, when he adopts the clean linen and well-brushed suit of the gentleman in distress. Cleanliness then is a good moral indication.

The physiology of dirtiness has its points of interest to those who are fond of speculation; and these it may not be out of place to mention, if it were only as a rational inducement to cleanliness.

We said at starting that life was a consumption. Certain matter used in its maintenance—fuel we might say—must be got rid of after it has been exhausted of its properties for supporting the vital combustion. From the skin alone there escapes, during the twenty-four hours, from one and a half to two pounds of water, about a drachm of charcoal combined with oxygen gas, a considerable quantity of fatty matter secreted by multitudes of little glands, and over the whole surface goes on the wearing off of particles of the scarf skin, little scales of a certain general and definite form. Now, when we consider the clothing up of the skin, an artificial state that we adopt, it will be seen at once how much we oppose nature's efforts to get rid of this effete material. Unless with our artificial habits we take care to preserve the natural functions of the skin, all the diseases of dirt are engendered. Amongst the poor and squalid, every one knows what living examples of dirt-growth are to be seen, but the daintiest of the land are unfortunately equally liable to become the prey of these horrid creatures if cleanliness is made impossible, as it is amongst our army in the Crimea. Now the source of these degraded and loathsome forms of life must be in the particles rejected by the higher animal, which are not actually inanimate, but only unfit for man's life. This morbid creation accumulates especially when the body is weakened, and is not at all uncommon to see old and debilitated persons in a dying state suddenly infected with lice.

Nature does all she can to protect us by accompanying dirt with a repulsive smell, and to "follow your nose," i. e. the advice of that ready organ, will generally be found the safest path. The commonest "stink" is sulphuretted hydrogen gas; it is so poisonous that one part in 1200 of air is strong enough to kill birds, and one in a 100 will kill dogs; so that ever so small a portion of it would be sufficient to render the air injurious to life and health. We learn from Mr. Johnston's interesting lectures that sulphur and its allied substances, such as cyanogen, phosphorus, and tellurium, are the chief ingredients in nasty and destructive smells. But what is so curious is, that the onion and garlic, our favourite flavourers, with their less favoured cousin the assafetida, all owe their virtues to a compound of sulphur and allyle. The universal and ancient relish for this flavour is remarkable. "Among the ancient Egyptians themselves the onion formed an object of worship, and the modern Egyptians assign it a place in their paradise. To the present day the onion of the Nile borders possesses a peculiar excellence and flavour. The Eastern Asiatics appear to require more powerful condiments, with them the assafetida takes the place of the milder onion and the stronger garlic."—(Johnston.) Mustard and horseradish owe their peculiar taste and properties to the same chemical essence. It must at the same time be remembered that these powerfully odorous substances would be injurious in a concentrated form; and it has happened that infants have been nearly killed by suckling from the mother after a meal of onions.

Speaking of animal smells, Mr. Johnston mentions the skunk—a creature that defends itself by a smell—and tells us that a perfectly salubrious person may render himself, and even his neighbourhood, perfectly intolerable for weeks or months, by swallowing a single grain of the metal tellurium: a quarter of a grain "will impart to his breath and to the perspiration from the skin a disgusting fetor, which makes him a kind of horror to every one he approaches." Science threatens to turn the knowledge of these deadly smells to some account. A compound of kakodyle and cyanogen can be made, which resolves itself into a deadly vapour the moment it comes in contact with the air, diffusing "at the same instant two of the most deadly poisons with which we are acquainted. Mercaptan (artificial oil of garlic) expels us by its insufferable stench; the kakodyles and their cyanides arrest our flight by almost as suddenly depriving us of life. These kakodyles might certainly be employed in warlike operations; but how far the use of vulgar poisons in honourable warfare is consistent with the refinements of modern civilisation is open to much doubt. There may not be much real difference between causing death by a bullet and the fumes of deadly poison; and yet, to condemn a man 'to die like a dog' does array death to him in more fearful colours." (Johnston.) Such weapons as these are the "asphyxiating shells" which have been proposed. The age of chivalry would be gone indeed, if the heroes of Inkerman were to be armed with smells! Many of the injurious smells are produced by our factories; upon this point the opinion of so expert a chemist as Mr. Johnston is decisive. He says: "There is scarcely a manufactory, indeed, which involves the immediate application of chemical principles—and this includes by far the greatest number—which, if carelessly conducted, may not become a source of real annoyance or even injury to its neighbourhood. I speak from a very wide experience, however, when I say that the escape of injurious substances into the open air, from such works, is rarely necessary to the prosperity of the several branches of manufacture. For the comfort of common life, there

fore, the intentional discharge of them into the atmosphere ought not to be permitted."

Various substances are recommended as smell-destroyers and disinfectants—such as chloride of lime and powdered charcoal. The singular properties of carbon in this form have been applied by Dr. Stenhouse to the invention of a curious and very simple sanitary instrument—the charcoal respirator—of which Mr. Johnston remarks, "All the air that enters the lungs must pass through this charcoal sieve, and, in so passing, is deprived of the noxious vapours and gases it may contain. Whether, as in the case of cesspools, laboratories, hospitals, dissecting-rooms, or the holds of vessels, these vapours be perceptible and offensive to the smell, or whether, like the miasms and malarin which marshes and festering ponds exhale, they be imperceptible to the senses, still the charcoal, it is alleged, will arrest them, and thus secure the wearer of the respirator from their irritating and unwholesome influences. It is also one of those cheap applications of scientific discovery to which the least regarded of our labouring population—the humble grave-digger, the despised sewer-cleaner, and the Irish drudge in our filthiest factories—may owe hereafter hours of happy health and painless sleep." We have heard one of the most active and able of the Commissioners of Sewers express the highest opinion of this respirator, which has already been used in the metropolis; and it is only just to do honour to the generosity of Dr. Stenhouse, who has declined to restrict the advantages of his invention by securing to himself the profits of a patent. Another plan by which chlorine is available, is also described; a few layers of cloth dipped in vinegar and sprinkled with chloride of lime, held over the mouth and breathed through, will protect from infectious diseases and the most dangerous receptacles of filth.

Purity of food is almost of as vital importance as purity of air; but the community has long been completely at the mercy of its purveyors. To read the results of Dr. Hassall's searching inquiries one would think that the honest trader is a perfect myth; he seems to have become so infatuated with the commercial principle, that his maxim now is—Get money honestly if you can; if not, adulterate. The age in which we live seems to be systematically spurious and religiously make-believe. The instances when a perfectly genuine article of food can be purchased from a very rare exception, and most of the food bought by the poorer classes is found to consist of some imitative rubbish—dried leaves of various kinds, and second-hand ones, for tea; sawdust and burnt beans for coffee, and chicory *ad lib.*; and even baked horse's and bullock's liver. Milk is chiefly diluted with water; the assertion that brains of animals, and snails were washed up with it is found not to be true of London milk; neither is chalk ever used. Gums and starch are, however, employed to thicken it and give the appearance of richness. But the most serious injury to which the public health is liable arises from the horrible state in which the wretched cows are kept—many large sheds and cellars exist in London where large numbers of cows are crammed together, three feet six inches allowed to each cow; and here they are made drunkards in spite of themselves, by feeding them with brewers' grains; they have all sorts of dreadful diseases of the udder and skin, but the milkman never releases his animal to the fresh pastures—she goes from him to the dogs'-meat man.

Bread is not so much adulterated as it is sold under weight; most of the loaves delivered at houses are deficient several ounces in weight. The law against this kind of cheating exists, but no officer sees to its being obeyed.

Butter is made to weigh heavy by beating water into it, and most of the choice "Epping" and "best Devon fresh" are Dutch butters with the salt washed out.

Potted meats and fish seem to consist chiefly of a red earth called *bal armenian*. The public is defrauded in its tobacco chiefly by making it weigh heavy, with sugar, or treacle, and water; the sugar always attracting moisture from the air. In the poor neighbourhoods a very neat article is made up for the market of paper and hay; the real Whitechapel chestnut is inexhaustible.

Porter generally contains injurious drugs, such as nux vomica, *cochui indicus*, and copperas, but the most expeditious and effective, perhaps the most harmless fraud, is dilution with water. It seems, too, that new ale is frequently made to resemble old by adding vitriol (sulphuric acid) to it. Pickles, preserved fruits, and olives, are universally coloured with some salt of copper of a poisonous nature, and almost all the coloured sweetmeats are injurious from similar admixture. One firm, Castell and Brown, deserves mention as exempted by Dr. Hassall from his ban of impurity. We may observe that in France, where the administrative supervision is supposed to be more searching, trade has, up to a recent period, been conspicuously fraudulent.

Dr. Hassall reminds us of one great sanitary fact, which indeed is only too forcibly before us just now, that throughout the whole world more persons have died, and still continue to die, from the neglect of the simplest precautions, and from living in violation of the fundamental laws and rules of health, than have ever fallen in battle.

The public have for ages recognised the great truth that prevention is better than cure, but it is only during the last fifteen years that science has been directed to the subject of public health, and has created the new branch of research; Hygiene. Chemical analysis and microscopical examination, such as we find brought to bear upon the subject in the works of Dr. Hassall and Mr. Johnston, and researches so minute and patient, conducted with so much professional intelligence as those of Dr. Snow, show us how science is in earnest about the matter, and we predict great results—great benefits to the race, from these investigations; in no cause could science be more worthily applied. Medical science has, we suspect, been too long absorbed in reveries about the nature and habits of disease, as though it were a natural object of creation, instead of studying the source of the mortal affliction. Let us hope we may live to see the natives of our crowded cities, now sacrificed by hecatombs to manufacture and commerce, no longer the stunted, haggard beings they are—degenerate boys born into a debauched old age—but indulged for a brief hour of life, at least, with the rude health of the rustic. Legislation will, however, have to

grapple with the national perversity; and, absurd as it may seem, self-preservation, the first law of nature, will have to be enforced by the policeman.

FIVE VOLUMES.

A Ramble through Normandy. By George M. Musgrave, M.A. Bogue.
Cornwall; its Mines, Miners, and Scenery. By the Author of "Our Coal Fields and
 Our Coal Pits." Longman.
Heroes of Charity. With a Preface. By Aubrey de Vere, Esq. Burns and Lambert.

The Pathology of Drunkenness. By Charles Wilson, M.D. A. and C. Black (Edinburgh).
The Decameron of Boccaccio. A Revised Translation. By W. K. Kelly. Bohn.

STERN, in his delightful "Sentimental Journey," undertakes to reduce the whole circle of Travellers under the following "Heads"—Idle Travellers, Inquisitive Travellers, Lying Travellers, Proud Travellers, Vain Travellers, Spleetic Travellers, The Travellers of Necessity, The Delinquent and Felonious Traveller, The Unfortunate and Innocent Traveller, The Simple Traveller. These ten "representative men"—now, as in Sterne's time, true types of classes—we will venture deferentially to increase to a comfortable dozen, by adding to the list, in consideration of the requirements of modern days, the Book-making Traveller and The Statistical Traveller. Our last "Rambler" in Normandy belongs to the first class, and our last "Rambler" in Cornwall to the second. Mr. Musgrave—who appends his portrait to his Preface—appearing in public in the guise of a cleanly and whiskerless gentleman with a protuberant travelling cap, and (as the lady novelists have it) a "chiselled nose"—Mr. Musgrave, let us say to begin with, has made out of his *Ramble* in Normandy a very readable pleasant book. He is essentially what they call, in country circles, a *droll* man, taking all legitimate opportunities of being moderately funny in a harmless, gentlemanlike way. Pont Audemer, Caen, Bayeux, Falaise, Lisieux, are among the principle places that he visited. He writes about towns and villages, and his wanderings to and from them, always agreeably, but sometimes (in his capacity of book-maker) rather too lengthily for any but the most patient readers. It is his weakness to make acquaintance with too many strangers, to ask too many questions, to believe too implicitly now and then in random answers—but he is otherwise, as we have said, a harmless, easy, gossiping, social Traveller, with a shrewd observation of his own, and a capital knack at telling an anecdote. Some of his Illustrations, small as they are, give a very fair idea of the Thing he desires to represent, and are generally praiseworthy for sensible selection of subject. We introduce him to our readers as an agreeable companion, and leave him with a pleasant certainty that he is the sort of man to make his way easily to their approval.

To our statistical traveller in Cornwall we must accord a more serious and formal welcome. The valuable parts of his book are, in our opinion, the parts which are more especially devoted to the giving of information. He is as lively and agreeable, in many places, as Mr. Musgrave—though in a different way, and with a more correct and elegant manner as a writer. He has an artist-like appreciation of Nature, and a genial readiness to quote and commend what has been done by his immediate predecessor in Cornwall—the author of *Rambles Beyond Railways*. But, in spite of these claims on his part to the character of a popular, amusing, and amiable Traveller, his greatest merit is the merit of being a clear and careful teacher. His information about Mines and Miners in Cornwall is full of interest, and will be, in great part, quite new to his readers. The book forms the 74th Part of Messrs. Longman's "Traveller's Library;" and is, in every sense of the word, a worthy addition to a cheap and excellent series of publications.

Heroes of Charity has, probably, ere this, attained to a wide circulation among the Roman Catholics. The book is too obstinately sectarian to penetrate elsewhere. It contains memoirs of nuns and lay women, eminent for good works and fanatical sanctity. The writer has caught the defects of what we will venture to call the Roman Manner—that strangely-inflated, wordy, rhapsodical, foreign-English style which Cardinal Wiseman has made familiar to most readers already, and which they may get further acquainted with, if they please, by hearing a Catholic sermon at any "chapel" in London. Mr. Aubrey de Vere's Preface is written from a mildly Ultramontane point of view; eulogising the more practically beneficial parts of the old monastic system, and, with a kind of simple fanaticism, actually suggesting that modern England might usefully return to it, even at this time of day! Not being controversialists, and not standing committed to the advocacy of any sect or party, we can afford to give M. de Vere credit for perfect sincerity—he must excuse us, if, as independent critics, we can do no more.

The Pathology of Drunkenness. Doctor Charles Wilson writes of intoxication and its ascertained causes and consequences learnedly, tersely, and with perfect propriety; but the moment he approaches the widely-different subject of Temperance, he follows the example of all writing and talking Teetotalers, unrestrainedly goes the whole hog, and in some cases seems, in a dry, quiet Scotch way, almost to take leave of his senses. His chapter on "Conviviality" is a marvel of cool assertion in defiance of fact and experience; except just at the beginning, where the Doctor writes in a very promising and pleasant style on the delightful bodily results of a cheerful glass. The effects of strictly temperate indulgence in fermented liquors he thus sums up:—"The diffusion of an agreeable warmth throughout the system; the action of the heart invigorated; the circulation quickened; the voice becoming full and sonorous; the eye sparkling; every function acquiring new energy; every motion accompanied with a consciousness of elasticity and vigour." So far so good. Our own personal experience during many years' temperate enjoyment of ale, wine, and grog, each in their due season, testifies to the truth of the quoted passage. But the Doctor, being on the Teetotal side, cannot afford to be sensible on the subject of Temperance for more than a page or two. We soon find our moderate elation qualified by such a bitter epithet as "transitory"—as if all human elations and enjoyments were not transitory. Are not, for instance, the making of Teetotal speeches and the writing of Teetotal books "transitory" elations? But do Teetotal gentlemen give them up on that account? Alas, no!—To continue:—The Doctor gets bitterer as he goes on, and tells us

that "the exhilaration which has been excited at first by very limited potations soon requires deeper and deeper draughts for its production." This is simply not the fact as to the practice of drinking by civilised mankind in general; and we will show why, when we have given Doctor Wilson Teetotal rope enough to suspend himself comfortably for the edification of our readers. He goes on to a bolder assertion soon after. "Even the moderate use of spirituous or fermented liquors, if long continued and grown habitual, cannot fail to have ultimately a prejudicial effect upon the health," he says; backing that opinion by plenty of medical theory, and by no examples or facts. As to spirituous liquor for a medicine, he will not hear of it. If we have been exposed to the weather, feel chilly and ill, take a glass of hot spirits and water, and become quite comfortable and cured after it, we must not ascribe so blessed a result to Doctor Grog; but must believe instead that we have "probably, at the same time, used other and more certain means of promoting perspiration" (we are not informed what means)—or "the simple effect of mere repose" may have cured us—but certainly not kind Doctor Grog. Even old age must not try and keep the lamp of life alight by pouring a little spirit in temperately, from time to time, as the flame flickers. Doctor Wilson quotes an "aged lady," à propos of this part of the subject, who, "when urged on her death-bed to recruit her failing strength with brandy," appears to have made this remarkably imbecile and blustering reply:—"Let me go home sober!" We have hardly had time to ponder on the prodigious mental fuddlement of any aged lady who can familiarly talk of going into Eternity as "going home," before we have the Doctor's favourite assertion about the fatal consequences of the cheerful glass repeated in stronger terms than ever. "A chief peril, however," he says, "in the moderate use of intoxicating drinks, in whatever way induced, or upon whatever plea adopted, lies in its being, but too frequently, merely a state of transition towards the formation of propensities of a more marked and fatal character."

Let us try this, as we said we would, and in the briefest way, by Fact. If the passage, rendered into plain English, means anything, it means that temperate drinkers are frequently found to become downright drunkards. Let us roughly divide temperate drinkers into two great classes—the rich and the poor; and let us judge the rich by dinner-parties, and the poor by gin-shops. The majority of guests at all dinner-parties are moderate drinkers—how many of them acquire a habit of getting drunk after dinner? Why it is notorious that drunkenness is hardly known in "society" now—though, as we have said, the vast majority of guests in all societies figure as moderate drinkers, year after year elated and satisfied with fit temperate allowance. "But," Doctor Wilson may say, "I don't mean the rich; I mean the poor." Very well:—Are the regular customers at gin-palaces, the thousand, thousand artisans who fetch their jug of beer for supper every night, "too frequently" drunkards? Does the pot-boy carry beer round to a "too frequently" drunken set of gentlemen's servants, male and female? Or take another class of drinking customers—cabmen, if you please. How often are you driven home at night by a drunken cabman? Which character does the worst of cabmen oftenest appear in at the police-offices—the character of a drunkard, or of a sober-minded extortioner of money? Finally, take year after year the drunken cases at police-courts: what proportion do they bear to the drinking poor of the police-court district—let us say those known as regular customers at the public-houses? The plain fact is that all the immoderate drinking among the poor is ferreted out by the Teetotalers, and all the moderate drinking is quietly passed over. "Sloggin's," to borrow the admirable illustration in *Household Words*, is an habitual drunkard, "Job Smith" is a moderate drinker, notoriously never intoxicated. No matter! let us talk and write at Job Smith, because he likes a pint of beer, just as if he was Sloggin's, who likes a gallon! Let us tell Job Smith he can't stop at the pint, because Sloggin's got on to a gallon. But let us by no means inquire into the relative numbers of Sloggin's and Job Smith's, or our pet teetotal theory, that drinking moderately leads "but too frequently" to drinking immoderately, may chance to be positively falsified by facts in a highly inconvenient and unanswerable manner!

It is refreshing, after having been obliged to devote some little time and space to the exposure of nonsense, to be able to close the present notice with a word of welcome to a genuine book. The revised English translation, by Mr. Kelly, of the immortal *Decameron*, ought to be in the libraries of all readers of Italian literature, in the first place, and of readers of English, in the second, who have yet to make themselves acquainted with a work of fiction, which, both in itself and in its results, is one of the most remarkable that the world has produced. Mr. Kelly has improved the style of the previous translation by most careful revision, has filled up unsightly gaps, and has provided the new generation of readers with useful antiquarian notes attached to most of the "Novels" or Tales, as we should call them now.

The Arts.

ASSAULT OF SEBASTOPOL.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN and HALL have published two excellent topographic and panoramic sketches, by Captain BIDDULPH, representing the advanced lines of attack, and the Russian defences in front of Sebastopol. Captain BIDDULPH is one of the active officers engaged in pushing the advanced works forward. These sketches, and the letter-press which accompanies them, are calculated to give the reader a good idea, not only of the lines of attack and defence, but of the nature of the ground; the steep rocky ravines and bare unsheltered plateaus across which the works are carried. These sketches will be of great value to those who interest themselves in the study of the siege from a military point of view.

SIR HENRY BISHOP'S CONCERTS, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—The concerts of glees and vocal concerted music under the direction of Sir HENRY BISHOP, and selected from his works, have been very fully attended. There will be a third concert on Tuesday afternoon, and the last will, we believe, be given on Saturday next, the 17th instant.

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